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VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31, 1876. NO. 124.

FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

Friday's Work in the Legislature --Slaughter of Bil s in the Senate--History of the Finance Bill to Date--Absenteeism Interfering with Business.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 28, 1876.

This was killing day in the Senate. The committees negatived nearly all the bills reported, and the Senate killed two bills, one on third reading and one on second reading. Such was the savage temper prevalent, that most of the Senators asked that their bills should go over until next week, preferring delay to the almost certainty of defeat.

The bills slaughtered were Mr. Albright's bill to make judicial sales of property, wipe out all claims except those which are made by law, prior liens, such as mortgages, municipal assessments, laborers' wages, &c., and Mr. Butterfield's bill to repeal the law requiring auditors of the settlement of estates, &c. Mr. Albright's bill had twenty-three votes to eleven, but as it takes twenty-six votes to pass a bill, it fell. Butterfield's bill got only his own vote and that of Mr. Stanton, of Luzerne. The other lawyers were all against it.

Mr. McMullen's bill, to authorize an appeal to the courts from the County Commissioners in the matter of county assessments, got through by a bare constitutional majority—twenty-six to eleven. It has now gone to the House.

Mr. Newmyer's bill to fix the salaries of county officers in counties having over 150,000 inhabitants, was reported with such a host of amendments that it is impossible to give its present condition; but it retains the Allegheny law pretty much as it stands, and provides that it shall not affect those now in office. The Philadelphia members insisted upon this, and upon fixing large salaries for their county officers.

The special committee on the Tramp Nuisance reported a new bill relative to vagrants and vagrancy, which it is thought will prove satisfactory. It embodies many, if not most, of the features of the bill proposed by the late convention of Poor Directors at Altoona.

The Finance bill, as it came from the House, set aside one-third of the tax on corporation stocks to the general fund, in the first section; provided, in the second section, for a monthly return of the amount of money in the depositories of the sinking fund from the State Treasurer, and a like return from the depositories of the Auditor General; and the third section provided for investing the surplus of the sinking fund in the bonds of the United States or the State, at their market value.

The Finance Committee struck out the third section, so that the bill, when it came up on second reading to-day, had but the first and second sections of the House bill. The first passed without objection, but when the second came up Mr. Albright moved to amend by incorporating in it a provision that a statement of the amount of the interest on and bonus or consideration for a deposit of the public money should be included in the monthly return.

The amendment came from the Democratic side; and as the bill originated in the Democratic House, a here any such provision could have been put in it, if the party wanted to do so, it looked very much like a party trick to reserve the offering of it until the bill came up in the Senate. The Democrats plainly did not want it in, or they would have inserted it in the House; but they wanted to make the Republican Senate take the responsibility of its rejection. In this, however, the ciliculations failed, for the amendment was adopted, yeas 21, nays 18—several Republican Senators voting aye; and then, when the section came up as amended, it fell, yeas 19, nays 20. So that Democratic trick didn't win.

Mr. Strang justly characterized this section as a stump-speech injected into the belly of the bill. It enacted nothing, and if it had any meaning at all it meant to legalize the reception of interest on the deposits made by the State Treasurer. It was a very cheap species of demagogism, and was as discreditable as its provisions were vague and meaningless.

The House did nothing but read bills in place, and both Houses adjourned till Monday evening.

The calendars of both Houses are now large, and it behooves them to get to work in earnest. Monday night will be devoted in the Senate to reading bills a first time, and on Tuesday it will have a dozen or more bills to act on finally. The absenteeism, this session, is something notable. The Senate seldom has over forty present, and some dozen Senators are now absent on leave. It would expedite business if they would all get back into their places.

SPECIAL.

WHISKY FRAUDS.

THE M'KEE TRIAL—ARGUMENTS OF COUNSEL—CASE TO GO TO THE JURY TO-DAY.

ST. LOUIS, January 30.—Mr. Daniel W. Voorhees, in closing the defense of William McKee, on trial for alleged complicity in the whisky frauds, poured out his invective upon the accomplices who had sworn for the Government, and then compared with them the defendant, a resident of St. Louis for thirty-four years, whose character had been unsullied up to the time of this charge. If McKee could go upon the stand and deny the statements of these scoundrels, which story would be entitled to belief, theirs or his? The speaker then took up each witness in turn, analyzed the testimony, and poured forth such a stream of denunciation and invective against each as has never been heard here, perhaps nor anywhere. No words were too bitter to hurl at or cast upon the conspirators, who, he said, had not only cheated, robbed and defrauded the Government, but attempted to drag a pure and honest man down to their own level. If the Government has to found its justice on men of this class, then its sky is gloomy indeed; more gloomy than the speaker had ever regarded it in its darkest day. If a system such as this is to prevail, it is a standing advertisement for rogues and villains to sacrifice unprincipled citizens to save their blackened seives.

Colonel Brodhead followed Mr. Voorhees, and closed the argument. His speech was plain and unpretentious, and consisted largely of reading testimony to the jury, making a concise and connected story of it, and dwelling upon and explaining its various points. He placed particular stress upon the fact that the defense had freely admitted the existence of a conspiracy, proved, too, by overwhelming evidence, but when the same kind of testimony was brought directly against their client they pronounced it perjured and worthy of no consideration. He pronounced the testimony of Louis Bohle, concerning Engelke's interview with McKee, as extremely improbable, and considered it strange that McKee should tell a stranger that he would use his influence with Collector Maguire to have seized goods released. After Mr. Brodhead finished the court adjourned. The jury will be instructed on Monday morning, and the case given them by or before noon.

THE NEW ORLEANS INVESTIGATION.

NEW ORLEANS, January 29.—The *Evening Picayune* says, of the crooked whisky investigation, the following are the names of the parties known to be indicted for alleged destruction or of failure to produce their books: John A. Walsh, D. M. Carey, Mr. Ryan, John Henderson and Flash, Lewis & Co.

The only capias issued yesterday was against John A. Walsh, who was conducted to the bar of the Circuit Court and arraigned on the indictment for destroying wholesale liquor dealer's books on demand of the Internal Revenue Office. Walsh pleaded not guilty and was bailed in $5,000. It is thought numerous capiases will be issued on Monday and that further developments will be made.

THE MILWAUKEE RING AND SENATOR CARPENTER.

MILWAUKEE, January 29.—A journal of this city has a statement to-night to the effect that there is a report that the Grand Jury has determined not to indict Matt Carpenter, though there was plenty of evidence to prove that he indirectly received campaign funds from the Whisky Ring, and attributes the fact to the direct and irresistible influence from Washington, as foreshadowed several days ago in these dispatches.

NORWICH, CONN.

Arrival of the Remains of Congressman Starkweather.

NORWICH, January 29.—The remains of Congressman Starkweather arrived here this afternoon and were taken to his late residence, on Laurel Hill, accompanied by the Congressional delegation, Postmaster General Jewell and a large number of citizens. The funeral takes place Monday next.

W. T. Austin, a citizen of Stokes county, N. C., was found dead in the Purcell House, at Wilmington, Saturday morning, *suffocated by gas*. It is supposed that after extinguishing the gas he unintentionally turned it on again.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE REGATTA—CHALLENGE OF NEW YORK ROWING ASSOCIATION.

LONDON, January 29.—A meeting of the Oxford University boatmen will be held on Wednesday next, when the New York Association's challenge will be considered. Cambridge will also answer next week. There is little prospect of either of the universities accepting. The *Evening Standard* says that Oxford may send a crew to contest in the Philadelphia regatta. The regular annual University boat race between the Cambridge and Oxford crews has been fixed for Saturday, the 8th of April. The course will be the usual one from Putney to Mortlake, or *vice versa*, a distance of four and a quarter miles, and will take place at about the turn of the tide from high water.

BUSINESS AT LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

LONDON, January 29.—Business at the Stock Exchange to-day was very quiet, as it usually is on Saturdays. The changes in prices are generally unimportant. Government securities and home railway shares have been dull. In the foreign market Egyptian shares monopolized attention. There have been considerable sales at from one-half to one and a half per cent. decline. Hungarian, Argentine, Italian and Turkish securities have been slightly lower. The discount demand is inactive, and the open market is rather easier under the competition for the few bills offering.

Hungary.

PREPARATIONS TO BURY M. DEAK.

BUDA-PESTH, January 29.—The Hungarian Diet has adopted a resolution that M. Deak's funeral shall be at the expense of the country. Great preparations are being made for that event. The House of Representatives will adjourn over on the day of the funeral, which is fixed for the 3d of February. The body will lie in state in the vestibule of the Academical Palace.

France.

RESULT OF YESTERDAY'S ELECTIONS.

PARIS, January 30.—The Senatorial elections were held by the Electoral Colleges to-day. Complete returns have been received from all parts of France, except two districts of Puy de Dome and the Colonies.

The successful candidates, classified according to political opinions avowed in their own addresses to the electors, are divided into sixty-five Monarchists, twelve pure Bonapartists, ninety-three Republicans and forty-five who are described as both Monarchists and Imperialists.

The Electoral College of Paris, on the first ballot, chose Freycinet, Tolain and He oid, the Republican candidates proposed by Gambetta. On the second ballot Victor Hugo was elected; and on its third, Peyrat, irreconcilable Radical, was successful.

Among the Republicans elected in the Departements are ex-President Thiers, Choilemel, Lacour, Pilletan, Esquiros, Delacroix, Favre, Rampont, Oscar de Lafayette and Peray.

Among the successful candidates who had the support of the Government, are Waddington, Ventavon, Viscomte de Meaux, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Leon Say, Minister of Finance, Cailaux, Minister of Public Works, Compt Darei de Belcastel, Ponyer Quertier, Teisserene de Bort, DeFreirdeul, Joubert, Contant Biron, Marquis de Talhouet, Magne, Failhand, Duc de Broglie, DeGavardie, General Ladmereault, Marchal Canrobert, Depeyre and Admiral Kerjegu. Raoul Duval, Bonopartist, is elected. M. Buffut, Minister of the Interior and Chief of the Cabinet, and Defaure, Minister of Justice, are defeated.

Returns of the Minister of the Interior classify the elected Senators as follows: Recommended by the Government, 129; Bonapartists, not recommended by Government, eight; Radicals and Gambettists, sixty-three; members of Left Center, —. About 120 of the Senators-elect were members of the Assembly.

LONDON, January 31.—A Paris dispatch reports M. Bocker, a leader of the Orleanists, elected to the Senate from Calvados. The correspondent says: "Owing to the generally moderate character of the men elected, the new Senate produces little impression, but the failure of Buffet and Dufaure to secure seats is regarded as a matter of paramount importance. Paris is perfectly quiet.

LONDON, January 31.—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says a rumor of M. Buffet's resignation is already circulated. This may confidently be declared to be only premature. A new Cabinet is formed it must consist of members of the Left Center and of Ministerialists who frankly support the Constitution. Under such circumstances, the Senatorial elections will be a very reassuring pledge for a moderate republic.

The *Times* Paris correspondent estimates that thirty-five Bonapartists, thirty-five Legitimists, fifty-five Orleanists or Constitutionalists, and about one hundred Republicans have been elected to the Senate. The most important features of the elections are the triumphs of the Moderate Republicans in Paris, the defeat of the Bonapartists and the failure of M. Buffet to secure his election in the Department of Seine-et-Oise. The Republican ticket, consisting of MM. Say, Feray and Boucher, was elected entire. Admiral Ronconier de Noury is elected in Eure. M. Thiers was almost unanimously returned from Belfort.

FUNERAL OF LEMAITRE, THE ACTOR.

PARIS, January 29.—The remains of M. Lemaitre, the actor, were buried to-day at Montmartre. His funeral was attended by an immense and somewhat noisy crowd. Victor Hugo delivered a speech at the grave eulogizing the deceased.

Germany.

THE REICHSTAG—THE PENAL CODE—ARNIM CLAUSE ADOPTED.

BERLIN, January 29.—The rejection by the Reichstag of the additions to the penal code for further restricting the clergy by prohibiting the posting of objectionable communications on the doors of churches, occasions general surprise. It was intended as a supplement to a previous bill prohibiting abuse of the pulpit. The latter bill was evaded by regarding the objectionable communications on church doors or by pamphlet pastorals, and the proposed clause would have applied the pulpit law to those communications.

A compromise has been reached by a majority of the Reichstag, including the National Liberals and the Liberal Conservatives, regarding the proposed Arnim clauses to the penal code, that, in order to make a diplomatic servant punishable, the intention to offend must be proved.

In the Reichstag to-day the second reading of the penal code amendment bill was concluded. The so-called Arnim clause was adopted by a vote of 179 against 120.

Spain.

MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE NORTH—IMPORTANT SUCCESS OF THE ALFONSISTS.

MADRID, January 29.—The following information in regard to the operations in the north has just been received here: The Alfonsist General, Quesada, occupied Villa Real, on the frontiers of the Provinces of Alava and Guipuzcoa, an important Carlist position, defended by five battalions of troops, with four Whitworth guns and some cavalry. The Alfonsists captured the artillerymen, two of their cannon guns, and all of their material. The Carlists also lost heavily in killed and wounded. The Alfonsists General, Maldonado, simultaneously occupied the heights of Barazar, to the east of Villa Real, meeting with only slight resistance. General Moriones, after taking the Montgararte Cordillera, occupied Zaros, from which he threatens the Carlist rear. The Carlists have suspended the bombardment of San Sebastian, and commenced withdrawing their siege artillery.

SAN SEBASTIAN, January 29.—Heavy musketry firing in the San Christobal Valley was heard yesterday. The Alfonsist troops have taken several Carlist positions, commanding the mouth of the Urola river.

LONDON, January 31.—A special from Vittoria reports that General Quesada has captured Aregris. This, in addition to his other successes, (the occupation of Villa Real and the hights of Artaban), gives him possession of the roads to Biscay and Guipuzcoa. The Third Corps, under General Loma, has captured the town of Valmaseda, in Biscay. General Moriones, moving up the valley of Orio, has outflanked the Carlists and advanced into Navarre.

COMPLEXION OF THE NEW CORTES.

MADRID, January 29.—It now seems that there has been but one Republican (Castelar) returned to the new Cortes, and but one Radical (Angiada.) The Marquis of Sardsal, extreme Monarchist, will lead a group of six or seven deputies. The Constitutionalists or Sagasta party will number thirty-six. Very few moderados, or partisans of religious unity, have been returned. The election to the Senate will probably be favorable to the Government.

NO CHRISTIAN BURIAL FOR PERSONS ONLY CIVILLY MARRIED.

COLOGNE, January 29.—The Cologne *Gazette's* Madrid correspondent writes that by order of the Spanish Bishops the bodies of all persons dead prior to the 9th of February, 1875, who were only civilly married will be exhumed and removed from consecrated ground. One decision of the Spiritual Court relating to a case of this kind has already been approved by the Minister of Public Worship.

European Turkey.

WAR AGAINST MONTENEGRO DOUBTED.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 29.—The *Journal* to-day doubts the truth of the assertion of the official Montenegrin *Journal* that Turkey has determined to declare war against Montenegro. The Sublime Porte has no wish to add to the existing embarrassments.

GREAT BRITAIN SUPPORTS AUSTRIA.

BERLIN, January 29.—Telegrams received from trustworthy sources at Vienna state that instructions from the British Government to its Ambassador at Constantinople, directing him to give full support to Count Andrassy's note, are on the way, and may be expected to reach their destination by the end of next week. The same telegrams say there is no doubt the Porte will accept the note.

THE CAMPAIGN IN HERZEGOVINIA.

RAGUSA, January 29.—The Herzegovinian insurgents are marching north of Trebigne. They are pursued by the Turks. The insurrectionists have burned nine villages.

INDORSEMENT OF ANDRASSY'S NOTE.

PARIS, January 29.—It is assorted that the powers have now arrived at a definite agreement respecting the form of presentation to the Porte of Count Andrassy's note. It will be presented by Austria and subsequently supported separately by the other powers.

Russia.

ESTIMATES FOR PUBLIC REVENUES.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 29.—The estimates for the public revenues for the current year are published to-day as follows: Total revenue (about) 570,000,000 roubles. Total expenditures (about) 569,914,000 roubles.

Prince Bagration-Mouchransky is dead.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST AMERICAN SEAMEN.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 30.—The *Gazette* of this city complains that American ships for a long time have been committing abuses in the Ochotsh Sea. The inhabitants, being bribed with spirits, have allowed Americans to usurp the rights of fishing and hunting in those waters. The clipper Wladamask has started on a cruise in Behrings Straits to suppress the abuses and confiscate the cargoes of spirits.

Marine News.

LONDON, January 29.—Steamships Java and Idaho, from New York, arrived out.

PLYMOUTH, January 30.—The steamer P. Caland, from Rotterdam for New York, put in here to-day, with her machinery disabled.

QUEENSTOWN, January 30.—The steamer Pennsylvania, from Philadelphia, arrived.

FIRE RECORD.

Worcester, Mass—$45,000.

WORCESTER, MASS., January 29.—The burning of three buildings on Main street this morning caused the loss of $45,000, distributed among a number of persons.

Large Fire at Shelbyville, Ky.—Fireman Killed.

LOUISVILLE, January 30.—A large fire at Shelbyville, Ky., this morning, is reported by a special to the *Courier-Journal*. It is supposed to have been caused by incendiaries, who hoped for plunder. The following losses are reported: Threlkeld & Smith, dry goods, $7,000; insurance, in Royal, of Liverpool, and Girard, of Philadelphia, $2,000 each. The books were owned by M. T. Smith, whose loss is $7,000; insurance $5,000, in the Franklin, of Philadelphia. Courtney & Ballard's store stock is slightly damaged and the house is a total loss, with $5,000 insurance; half in the Ætna. Hickman, jeweler, loses $1,000; insurance full, in the London, Liverpool and Globe. L. W. & R. A. Jones, dry goods, are damaged slightly; fully insured in the Franklin, of Philadelphia. Robert Jackson, a negro volunteer fireman, was instantly killed during the fire by the fall of a wall. The citizens of Shelbyville presented Jackson's family, who are in destitute circumstances, with a purse of two hundred dollars.

On to the Black Hills.

OMAHA, January 29.—A large number of citizens have left here during the past week for the Black Hills, and many persons are arriving daily *en route* from the East. Much trouble is anticipated with the Indians in that section this summer. The Arapahoes, who have been south this winter, say they are determined on a war for the possession of the Black Hills country and are prepared for it. It is thought the Government may interfere to keep the miners out, but may leave them to protect themselves.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-day.—Clear or fair weather and rising temperature, with southerly to southwest winds and falling barometer.

In the Ohio Senate, Saturday, a bill was introduced to make drunkenness for one year a sufficient cause for divorce.

It is said that Prince Bismarck has proposed to the German Federal Council that the decree of last spring, prohibiting the export of horses, be annulled.

Four men, while filling a lime kiln at Columbia, Pa., Saturday morning, were overcome by gas and fell into the pit. Only one of them was secured alive.

The strike among the shoe operatives at Rochester, which has lasted several weeks, was ended on Saturday by the employees agreeing to resume work on the old terms.

The Baltimore *American* removed its offices and presses on Saturday to its new iron building at the corner of Baltimore and South streets, opposite the *Sun* building.

After deliberating seventy hours the Paterson, N. J., jury, in the case of the city officials tried for corruptly reducing taxes, were discharged on Saturday, having been unable to agree.

The steamers Germanic, China and City of Antwerp, from Liverpool; Oder, from Bremen; Holland, from London, and Frisia, from Hamburg, have arrived at New York.

Some time during Friday night the millinery store of Prescott & Co., No. 12 Summer street, Boston, was entered by thieves, by means of false keys, and robbed of five or six thousand dollars worth of silks and velvets.

The value of the goods imported into the Dominion in December, exclusive of British Columbia, amounted to $1,293,282. The duties were $645,247. The value of the goods exported during the same month was $626,371.

An injunction has been filed in the Chancery Court at Memphis, by Mrs. Susan Nelson, for winding up the affairs of the Southern Life Insurance Company of that city, on the ground of the insolvency of the company.

The Toronto *Globe* of Saturday publishes a letter from Archbishop Lynch, of Toronto, to the Premier, in which he says that the priests in his diocese are strictly forbidden to make the altar or pulpit of their churches the continue of political harangues for or against any party or candidate.

Additional failures in Boston, Mass., are reported as follows: Robert and G. R. Brine, tailors, liabilities $34,000; Jacob Bock, clothing, No. 55 Union street, liabilities $30,000; Charles E. Meyer & Co., picture frames, liabilities $50,000; Amos Carter, furnishing goods, No. 411 Washington street, liabilities $25,000, mostly due in New York.

Last night a freight train on the Pennsylvania Railroad was robbed of $5,000 worth of goods, which were thrown off in bales and boxes near Waverly station. The goods were for Western firms. A similar robbery took place on the same train a week ago at the same place. A man named Cahill has been arrested as one of the train thieves. The thieves get on the train at Jersey City, and throw off the goods for confederates along the road.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Prince Bismarck is again reported ill.

Mrs. John Erick died at Omaha, Friday night, from the effects of an overdose of arsenic, taken while she was insane.

A boy, aged thirteen years, a son of Rev. C. H. Nachtrie, of Berea, Ohio, was drowned on Saturday by falling into the river at that place.

John H. Lockey, of Leominster, Mass., ex-State Senator and a prominent business man, has failed. His liabilities are $93,000, and his assets $50,000.

S. J. Meany and James Callahan, editor and proprietor of the Montreal *Sun*, were arrested Saturday on a charge of libel, instituted by James Hawley.

Captain Paul Boyton swam from Alton, Illinois, to St. Louis, a distance of twenty-five miles, on Saturday. Time of departure, 5:30 A.M.; time of arrival, 3 P. M.

Wednesday night, about ten o'clock, while John James and William Widders, of West Cleveland, were returning home, walking in the road, they were struck by a horse and buggy and both seriously injured. Widders will probably die. The night was dark and rainy, so they did not hear or see the approach of the vehicle.

Patrick Donahoe, bookseller, and the publisher of the Boston *Pilot*, has suspended. At the first meeting of the creditors, held the latter part of last week, a committee of four was appointed to examine his accounts. The liabilities are about $308,000, including some $50,000 or $60,000 of mutual indorsements with A. W. Lovering. The assets are raised by the committee to aggregate $276,900.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

TINKERING THE TARIFF.

House Committee on Ways Means at Work.

Bill to be Offered Taxing Tea and Coffee

AND REIMPOSING INCOME TAX.

Free Traders Rehearsing their Arguments to Willing Ears.

Journal Clerk of the House a Light Weight.

Harmonious Republican Caucus—Liberals All Back in the Fold.

Democrats Admit that their Control of the House Will Cost Them the Next Presidency.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1876.

The Tariff Act Under Discussion.

The Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means will shortly introduce a bill amending the Tariff act of last session, imposing a tax on tea and coffee and on incomes over $5,000. It also proposes to simplify the collection of duties by striking from the free list certain articles, the collection upon which will be complicated, and imposing upon them a specific duty. The details of this bill have not been thoroughly worked out, so that to what extent the change will go cannot now be stated. The agents of the Free Trade League are here, and an effort is being made to press their ruinous doctrines upon the Committee, already favorably disposed in that direction.

An Incompetent House Clerk.

The failure to read the Journal of Friday's proceeding yesterday, was that it had not been prepared by the Journal Clerk, who was not competent to perform the task, on the absence of Barclay, resigned. The ruling of the Chair that, as the House had not approved the Journal it could not be read, was simply a subterfuge to cover the deficiencies of an important officer. All the precedents of the House are that even though the Journal is not approved, that the Journal, to be complete, should contain a record that the House was in session for debate.

The Republican Caucus.

The Republican caucus, which met for the purpose of organizing the Congressional Committee, was inspired with a feeling of confidence and enthusiasm which promises an overwhelming triumph in the campaign of 1876. All the Liberal Republicans were present and took an active part in the discussion. Senator Hamilton, of Texas, who went off at a tangent in the Greeley movement of 1872, and who has not since participated with the Republicans, was present and was assigned to the Congressional Committee as the representative of Texas. Senator Alcorn, of Mississippi, among others, was also present.

Democrats Looking up the Presidency.

The Democrats, on the other hand, are ready to throw up the sponge. One of them remarked the other day that their control of the House had cost them the Presidency.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 29, 1876.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS TO-NIGHT.

The announcement that the Democratic caucus would meet to-night was not made at a meeting until a late hour after the House had adjourned, and many members not hearing the announcement left the city to be absent until Monday. In consequence of the large number of members absent from the city, the caucus was postponed until Tuesday night next. The inflationists are determined to make a vigorous effort at the caucus to have an expression of opinion upon repealing the specie resumption act.

SUPERINTENDENT OF RAILWAY SERVICE.

T. M. Vail, of Iowa, Assistant Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, will be appointed Superintendent of such service immediately on the resignation of Colonel Bates, who leaves on or about the 1st of February. Mr. Vail entered the service of the Department as a route agent on the Union Pacific Railroad in 1869, and is thoroughly conversant with all the details of the Postal Railway Service. The Assistant Superintendents of the Railway Mail Service, who have been in session at the Postoffice Department, for the purpose of agreeing to resume work in regard to the service, leave this evening for their respective stations.

WEEKLY TREASURY STATEMENT.

The following were the balances in the Treasury at the close of business to-day: Currency, $8,404,162; special deposit of legal tenders for redemption of certificates of deposit, $30,135,000; gold, including $12,600 in coin certificates, $70,972,277; outstanding legal tenders, $371,273,140.

Following are the receipts of national bank notes forwarded for redemption for the week ending to-day, as compared with the corresponding week of last year:

	1875.	1876.
New York	$3,006,000	$1,879,000
Boston	483,000	1,040,000
Philadelphia	217,000	184,000
Chicago	61,000	76,000
Cincinnati	63,000	51,000
All others	158,000	753,000
Total	$4,505,000	$4,383,000

Receipts to-day, $620,678. Internal revenue receipts to-day, $362,428 71; for the month to date, $9,312,192 99; for the fiscal year to date, $66,508,336 24. The Customs receipts to-day were $671,950 62; for the month to date, $10,452,180 81; for the fiscal year to date, $86,475,558 56. Treasury shipments of legal tenders and fractional currency for the week ending to-day, $1,-635,000.

The Treasurer now holds $361,723,962 in bonds to secure national bank circulation, and $18,626,500 to secure public deposits. The national bank circulation outstanding is $343,322 344, of which amount $2,100,550 are gold notes.

THE GENEVA AWARD.

The House Judiciary Committee having last night given a hearing to representatives of the war claimants, and all the other applications for extending the cases entitled to share in the Geneva award having been urged previously, the case is now closed, and the whole question of extending the present limitations has been referred to a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Lord, Caulfield, McCrary and Frye, for a report to the full committee at an early day.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1876.

TURKISH LEGATION DEFENDS ITS GOVERNMENT.

The Turkish Legation denies the truth of the report that the Sultan owns bonds of the national debt to the amount of eight million pounds sterling and that he exacted full interest, while other creditors would, for the time being, receive only one-half. The Turkish Finance Minister, as being without foundation, the rumors relating to ill-treatment inflicted upon Americans, it being alleged that in order to escape violence they embraced Islamism.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA INVESTIGATION.

It is said that Representative Buckner will to-morrow introduce a resolution in the House for the investigation of the affairs of the District of Columbia since the repeal of the act providing a government for the District.

TIFFIN, OHIO.

A Charlie Ross Found—The Persevering Father Coming On.

CINCINNATI, January 30.—The *Gazette's* Tiffin, Ohio, special reports the discovery there of a child supposed to be Charlie Ross. His photograph has been sent to Mr. Ross, at Philadelphia, who admits that the boy bears a close resemblance to his son, and asks that he be kept until Mr. Ross reaches there. The child was left there in October last by two men, who have not since been seen. He gives his name as Charlie Skates, and says he came from Cincinnati.

The Old Quincy Bank Robbery Mystery Unraveled.

EVANSVILLE, IND., January 30.—A confidence man, named J. L. Termer, of Terry, Illinois, has confessed to being one of a gang of burglars who robbed a bank in Quincy, Illinois, in February, 1874, of $350,000 in bonds and $84,000 in cash. He says he was given the bonds and the others took the cash. He says the bonds are buried near Chambers Junction, Iowa, and the Chief of Police has just returned from a search, which was unsuccessful. There is a reward of $40,000 offered for the recovery of the bonds by the bank, and it is probable that Termer will be taken to Iowa to make good his confession.

THE OHIO RIVER.

Damage to Property by Overflow in Indiana and Kentucky—Railroad Washed Out, Etc.

LOUISVILLE, January 30.—The present flood from the Ohio overflow in and around Louisville, New Albany, Jeffersonville and Southern Indiana, is the greatest and most damaging that has occurred for years. The Ohio ceased swelling last night, and this evening is receding slowly. The absence of a flood gate at the outlet of the creek in Louisville, allowed a large quantity of water from the river to rush in on part of the city. Yards, cellars and lower stories of houses and workshops were filled with water, but no loss of life or serious damage to property has occurred. In Southern Indiana the flood caused considerable damage to private property, and to the Ohio and Mississippi and Louisville and Indianapolis railroads. Passengers coming from Chicago have been taken over several circuitous routes, going first to Mitchell, thence to Jeffersonville, thence to North Vernon, and from there to Cincinnati. The most serious washaway on the Louisville and Indianapolis road, is between Rockford and Columbus, and on the Ohio and Mississippi road between Brownstown and Mitchell. Twenty cars of stone were taken over the Ohio and Mississippi to-day to repair the damage at the washaway. It is expected that repairs will be completed to-day, and that travel will be all right again to-morrow over the damaged roads.

FROZEN TO DEATH.

Experience of an Illinois Farmer and his Wife on a Spree.

ROCKFORD, ILL., January 29.—Patrick Gartlandt and wife were found this morning, near their farm, five miles south of this city, frozen to death. They had been doing some marketing here during the day and last night started home in an open wagon, both probably under the influence of liquor. Mrs. Gartlandt either fell from the wagon or was thrown from it, striking on the road face downward, was frozen to death in that position. Her husband was found near the hog pen of his place, also frozen stiff.

The total number of hogs slaughtered at Cincinnati to date is 403,387, against 469,547 to same date last year.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—TO RENT—A SMALL house of five or six rooms. Address, stating location and rent, A. M., this office.

WANTED—SITUATION—AS SALESman or canvassing agent; good references; will accept small salary. Address No. 113, Fifth street.

WANTED—SITUATION—IN A DRUG store; some experience; good salesman; both languages, English and German. Address Box 4, this office.

WANTED—EVERYBODY TO USE Abel's Vermin Exterminator. It has no equal for banishing Rats, Mice and Roaches. Sold by all druggists.

WANTED—DRUGGIST—A SITUATION in a drug store by a young man. First-class references will be given. Address DRUGGIST, this office.

WANTED—LOTS—TO EXCHANGE good paying city property for well located unimproved lots and some cash. Addr ss Box 1260, Commercial.

WANTED—SAFE—OF MEDIUM SIZE, second hand. Burglar and Fire Proof. Address, giving full description, price, etc., Lock Box 263, Pittsburgh P. O.

WANTED—CLERKSHIP—BY A young man of industrious habits, with best of references; is qualified to keep books. Has had experience. Address Box 1, Commercial office.

WANTED—A GOOD STEADY MAN—with a small capital, to take one-half interest in a good paying patent right. Also, solicit orders and sell State and county rights. For information address STEWART, this office.

WANTED—UNFURNISHED ROOMS —A good unfurnished room (or two en suite), with all conveniences, in neighborhood of Penn street or Allegheny. Desirable and permanent tenant, if suited. Address MAY, Commercial office.

WANTED—SITUATION—AS TRAVELING Salesman for a Gasaway House, by a young man with six years' experience. Good trade and acquaintance through Ohio. Can give best of reference. Address Lock Box 158, Mansfield, Ohio.

WANTED—WRITING—OF ANY kind (except in books) to do on the "Type-writer." Legible and beautiful as print; cheaper than pen writing. Large or small jobs, or permanent situation desired. Address TYPE-WRITER, Commercial office.

WANTED—MONEY—TO BORROW IN a few weeks, $18,000 or $20,000 on first mortgage security, upon first-class farms worth $30,000, for a term of years, at a low rate of interest. For particulars address GEO. W. RETTLEDGE, Ada, Hardin county, Ohio.

WANTED—INFORMATION—TO STEAMBOATMEN—The officers of the Steamboat on which the Rev. Hugh Kirkland, the brother-in-law of Cincinnati, was lost on the night of the 26th of December, 1875, near Gallipolis, Ohio, will confer a favor by sending the particulars of that occurrence and all information concerning the effects they may possess to Mrs. MARY J. FRANKLIN, No. 300 Webster avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

FOR SALE—AN INTEREST IN A Rolling Mill, on easy terms. A person that can manage, and one that can do outside business, will find it to their advantage to address W. C. JONES, No. 301½ Pearl street, Cleveland, Ohio.

BUSINESS CHANCE—AN EXCELlent Opportunity Offered to Enterprising Men: Private sale of the Wrought Brass Foundry, Stock and Gas Pipe Works, of the late John Kupferle, situated at the corner of Second street and Washington avenue, in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. The above mentioned well known establishment, situated in the heart of the city, and in a prosperous running order, and having a very extensive and valuable custom, is now, by leave of the Probate Court of St. Louis county, offered for sale upon reasonable terms. For particulars apply to JOHN KUPFERLE and CHARLES SEITZ, Executors, No. 600 North Second street, St. Louis, Mo.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—DOUBLE PARLOR—IN pleasant locality. Terms moderate. Address No. 110 Penn avenue.

FOR RENT—STOREROOM—FROM April 1, a desirable Storeroom on first floor of Library Hall building. Inquire of CHAS. CLARKE, 44 Wood street.

FOR RENT—ROOMS—3 LARGE ROOMS on second floor of new building. Water, gas and all conveniences. Suitable for small family. Inquire at No. 32 Diamond, Pittsburgh.

FOR RENT—STORE—BUILDING NO. 178 Liberty street, one door from Sixth street now occupied by Messrs. Bailey & Co. Inquire of H. SMITH & CO., 49 Sixth street.

FOR RENT—HOUSE—THREE-STORY Brick House, No. 138 Fourth avenue, containing 12 rooms, with all modern improvements. Inquire of H. W. STRICKLER, No. 5 Sixth avenue, second floor.

FOR RENT—HOUSES—TWO DWELLing houses of 8 rooms each, with finished attic and goodcellar, both in good condition as to paint, paper, &c., on Center avenue. Rent low. Inquire at Center avenue.

FOR RENT—WAREHOUSE—THAT fine new desirable Warehouse, corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street, now in the occupancy of Messrs. Uefing & Follansbee. Apply to WM. ROSEBURG, 41 Bank of Pittsburgh.

FOR RENT OR SALE—NEW TWO-STORY Frame House, with Bay Window, containing 6 rooms, Vestibule and Hall, with Kitch

The Commercial.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1876.

THE foreign exports of Philadelphia last week amounted in value to $452,714.

SENATOR DAVIS, of West Virginia, has spiked his Treasury arithmetic. BOUTWELL'S figures don't agree with him.

THE Democrats in Congress have held a caucus and agreed to the padlock policy. They may prevent Bourbon speeches, but they cannot hinder Republican votes. The people are altogether too talented to trust a party that cannot trust itself.

THE Democratic press is again beginning to indulge in its customary quadrennial Presidential predictions, notwithstanding its painful realization of the fact that nobody gets snubbed so often as he who is always sticking his nose into futurity.

THIS Government ought to have an adequate extradition treaty with the Government of every other civilized nation in the world, and it is largely our fault that we have not. The urgent need should be supplied without a moment's unnecessary delay.

THE notorious copperhead, HENRY CLAY DEAN, has quit politics and gone into theology. He is now lecturing in Iowa to prove that man was literally created from the dust of the earth—which probably accounts for his own unconquerable aversion to water and cleanly living.

THEY are praising LAMAR as a "marvelously gifted statesman." Just so. He reminds us of the boy in one of our public schools, who, on being reproved by his father for progressing so slowly in his studies, replied, "I am the devil and all for speaking pieces." LAMAR may be summed up as the champion sentimental gabbist.

RECENTLY discovered important evidence by the executors of OAKES AMES' estate is said to show that ex Vice President COLFAX received none of the proceeds of the famous "O. C." Credit Mobilier check given by the former. What a universal swallowing of nasty words will ensue by the Democratic papers, in the event of his vindication.

WE SUGGEST that if SCANNELL and LANDIS, and other lunatics with shooting propensities, are to be permitted to shoot whoever they please and then plead insanity on their insanity, they should be confined in their operations to such places as the Hall of the House of Representatives at Washington. There are many Democratic heads there that do not contain brains enough to be injured by a bullet.

THE English manufacturers are getting terribly alarmed by the steadily decreasing demand for their goods in this country, and REVERDY JOHNSON, whom they have lately been dining and wining to his bibulous heart's content, evidently thinks that nothing but the abrogation of free trade by the United States will save them. At all events he has just announced himself a convert to their theory. He is very old.

IT is by no means impossible that the disruption of the Austro-Hungarian empire may be precipitated by the death of DEAK, the Hungarian statesman, who died last Friday, the dualistic treaty between those countries, whose duration expires next year, and to the renewal of which there is considerable opposition, having been his work mainly. Such a result would gravely complicate the political situation alike in Europe and in Turkey.

THE cumulative voting, which enables a minority to steal a corporation in Pennsylvania, is nothing to the same kind of voting which enables the minority in Mississippi to steal a State. They have reduced the matter to a science, down there, and when any one of the majority quietly claims that he has some right to be heard, they shoot him and lay him out of the way. The 30,000 Democratic votes in that State have been cumulated into 120,000 by judicious counting and the aid of powder and ball.

THE foreign commerce of New York last week was: Merchandise imports, $5,224,431; produce exports, $5,610,526, and specie exports, $436,167. The total imports since the first of January this year were $27,518,546, against $25,838,137 for the corresponding period last year, and $25,644,597 in 1874. The total exports of produce during the same period were $19,842,541, against $16,744,402 for the corresponding period in 1875, and $20,781,489 in 1874, and the total exports of specie were $1,976,090, against $9,024,323 last year, and $2,347,578 the year before.

OF THE Poughkeepsie railroad bridge, whose speedy construction is now definitely assured, the Boston *Post* says, jubilantly: "It puts Boston, as if by magic, in communication with the coal fields and oil regions of Pennsylvania, and with the line of interior cities stretching westward from Pittsburgh to St. Louis and the whole Southwest. A competent bridge, thus located for the accommodation of either side of it, especially a densely populated part of the country like our own, as inevitably draws railroads to it as water runs down hill, and thus creates business beyond the limits of all previous calculation."

More direct and ample means of connection with New England than now exist have also been long needed by our own State.

THE Fish Commissioners of our own State, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, have drafted a bill making all legislation upon the subject of the fisheries upon the river Delaware uniform and concurrent, which is to be presented to the Legislatures of these States, asking for immediate action. Professor BAIRD, the United States Fish Commissioner, has 700,000 eggs of salmon for distribution in the waters of the States named. The area of "plenty of fish, easily accessible, abundant in market, at cheap prices and used as daily food for all classes of our people," which AGASSIZ used to declare was one of our most pressing necessities, bids fair to soon dawn.

THE New York *Times*, in referring to certain able articles furnished to that paper against the President's attempt to subject church property to taxation, admits that the President's figures, as to the present and prospective value of church property, are all wrong. The President proposes to continue the exemption of burial grounds and church edifices; and when these are taken out of the account there is but little left for taxation. The *Times* says that, "on the whole, it seems probable that the President, misled as to the amount of church property, and ignorant as to the exact nature of the actual exemption enjoyed, has been betrayed into an anxiety on this subject for which there is no pressing occasion." And, it might have added, from which no political advantage is likely to flow.

SPEAKING of the decay of mercantile honor and honesty as indicated by the increasing number of defalcations, breaches of trust and forgeries and robberies, which are constantly coming to light, the Boston *Commercial Bulletin* pertinently says:

"We don't want to see the gibbet erected, or the pillory any more; but we do devoutly desire such a return to correct principles and honorable practices that any man who deviates from the right way shall be hung as high as Haman on the gibbet of public sentiment, or have a finger of scorn shall be pointed at the delinquent, whoever he may be; and when guilty wealth and glittering fraud shall cower before God's noblest work, an honest man."

The personal lesson of the whole matter is, that reform must be individual, not vaguely general. Let each one look to it that he reform himself, for thus, and only thus, can dawn the stable and permanently rooted era of public honesty and prosperity for which all classes of society so longingly wait.

THE Democratic party is laboring under a mountainous accumulation of woes. DICK SCHELL, the Chairman of the National Democratic Committee, was the other day summoned from New York to Washington in hot haste, to confer with the leaders regarding a cure for the unfortunate errors into which the House majority have wandered. He is very much exercised over the petrifying ignorance and lack of unity and discipline that obtain in the party. And here is the Baltimore *Sun*, a leading organ of the Democracy, bewailing that—

"While the Democrats in the House are making such a tremendous ado about the great reductions which they propose to make in all branches of the public service, they are rendering themselves extremely vulnerable in another direction. Since the beginning of the session scores of bills have been introduced by the Democratic members covering all conceivable projects for taking money from the Treasury. Most of all of these bills are for claims growing out of the war, and in the aggregate they foot up more millions than ever the most enthusiastic Democratic reformer had proposed to take off the present total of public expenditures. They furnish just the material which the radical press and the radical speakers ardently desire to hold up before the people of the North and the West during the coming Presidential campaign. Already the work of collating these bills, setting forth their object, with the total amount called for by them, has been commenced and scattered broadcast over the country as a Republican campaign document. It would be well for a halt to be called in this matter."

That is to say, it is thought inadvisable, for the present, to let the country know what Democracy really is. The true design of the party is to be bottled up till a more convenient season. The shift, however, astute as it may be thought, will not avail. The people see the intent of the artist in the bottling-up so clearly that they need no further argument in the premises.

THE NO-POLICY OF THE DEMOCRATS.

The caucus of Democratic Senators at Washington, recently held, acted upon the principle that a Democratic Senator cannot open his mouth without putting his foot in it. The caucus resolved not to permit any Democratic speeches to be made in the Senate upon MORTON'S Mississippi resolutions, and it developed a strong inclination to shut off debate, also, on the States rights resolutions heretofore offered by MORTON and MCDONALD. This inclination was partially balked by the desire of BAYARD and THURMAN, rival candidates for the Democratic Presidential nomination, to make speeches for Buncombe upon those resolutions. It is to be hoped the caucus will thus be overreached. BAYARD and THURMAN will be sure to cut their own throats by the operation, and the rest of the Democratic Senators would probably be glad to witness the operation if it could be confined to those Presidential aspirants; but as there is danger they will also cut the throat of the party, it may become necessary for the party to shut them off.

The action of this caucus is proof of what we have often before asserted, that the party has no settled creed of policy, and is a mere aggregation of hostile factions bound together solely by the cohesive force of public plunder. The Democratic members of the House have already put the party in peril by their haste to air their differences with each other; and it is now found necessary to apply the gag to the mouths of Democratic Senators to keep them from declaring sentiments that will arouse the fears of the people. The reason for the action of the caucus referred to is explained by a Democratic Senator, who says his colleagues have determined "not to have any of the foolishness in the Senate that has been seen in the House;" but why, except upon the theory that the party is not and cannot be a unit upon any leading national question, should a discussion of national questions by Democratic members be regarded as "foolishness?" The "foolishness" consists solely in the fact that liberty of debate cannot be allowed to the Democratic members without involving them in angry conflicts with each other.

It has been found, for instance, that while Mr. HOPKINS of our Twenty-second district, thinks a Centennial appropriation constitutional, COCHRAN, of the adjoining district and the great successor of DANIEL WEBSTER, thinks it unconstitutional; BUCKNER, of Virginia, insists that we are not a nation, but a mere federal aggregation of States, and that the right of secession remains intact, while HOLMAN, of Indiana, is alike positive in scouting at States Rights and a disjointed government; FERNANDO WOOD persists in setting up hard money as the basis of Democratic doctrine, whilst LANDERS, and BECK, and PENDLETON regard hard money with detestation and cry out for the greenback as the only legal tender; RANDALL is for a high tariff, and Sunset COX is for free trade; and while JEREMIAH MASON contends for the power of the General Government to build railroads, dig canals, and throw up levies along the Mississippi, THURMAN and BAYARD deny to it any such authority. There is not, in fact, a single national issue on which the party is united, and the longer indiscriminate debate is allowed to go on the more apparent this discordance will grow.

The MORTON resolutions, which the Democrats of the Senate are so reluctant to discuss, assert the broad Republican principle that the United States are a national Government, and that the National Government is possessed of certain attributes of sovereignty. Mr. MCDONALD proposes to amend these resolutions by others, setting forth the sovereignty of the States, and denying to the General Government the attribute of nationality. These resolutions have got to be met, and the Democratic Senators have got to face them; but they fear debate, because it will expose their own divisions and distractions. Debate is sure to lead some Southern Senator into talk as wild as that of HILL and TUCKER in the House, and to create a prejudice against the party in the North. What the prudent Senators want is to go along quietly, say nothing and doing nothing and wind up the session without making any record against themselves. The spirit indeed is willing with them, but the flesh is weak; and the end will be that the Democratic ongue will wag, in spite of all precautions to the contrary, and the country will have the chance to learn what Democracy really is from its own legitimate development. All the efforts made to hide the cloven foot will prove to be failures of the most mortifying kind.

MUNICIPAL DEBT.

The New York Legislature is bothering itself with useless acts of Assembly to "limit the indebtedness" of municipalities, forgetting, apparently, that the next Legislature may sweep such legislation away, if it chooses. A mere law, subject steadily to repeal or modification, is no protection to the people and no security against an increase of indebtedness. We have had instances before this, of "limiting the indebtedness" of the corporation, and the city debt has constantly grown in spite of them. What is wanted in New York and elsewhere is a Constitutional provision, not for *limiting* indebtedness but *prohibiting* it, and stopping at once the possibility of its further increase. The fundamental law has some permanence about it, and cannot be easily altered or swept away. Drop legislation, and erect the barrier against a further heaping up of debt in the Constitution. The bond-issuers will find it a rock they cannot get over, and and nothing else will stop their career.

The Pennsylvania Constitution contains a provision on this subject, but it has just one fault—it does not go far enough. It allows indebtedness to be incurred up to seven per cent. of the valuation of the property within municipal bounds; and "valuation" is so subject to inflation and contraction that the limit is by no means well defined. Still it is better than nothing, and it has this advantage—it is beyond legislative reach.

Debt is the incubus which is weighing us all down. Our churches, our school houses, our cities and counties, our wards, townships and boroughs, our homesteads and our farms are all under mortgage, and debt rides us with all the horrors of a nightmare. It is as bad as the frogs of Egypt, which invaded the bed-chambers and defiled the kneading troughs of the people; and our only way of obtaining deliverance from it is to erect a barrier beyond which it cannot pass. Bankruptcy is a fine wiping out of existing indebtedness, so far as individuals are concerned; and if a stop is not soon put to the increase of municipal debt, municipal bankruptcy will come inevitably to wipe it out also.

It is a subject of congratulation that this question is attracting so much attention everywhere. The example of Governor HARTRANFT in pointing out its claims to consideration has been followed by Governor HAYES, of Ohio, Governor TILDEN, of New York, and by the Governors of other States. But it is a mortification to witness the fact that in all the States that have so far taken it up, the inclination is to trifle with it, and resort to petty and impracticable methods of prevention. Radical remedies are not sought after or proposed, and none but a radical remedy will suffice.

Governor TILDEN'S New York Commission to frame a new code for the government of cities fancies it has discovered the true method in getting up a complicated form of administration, bristling with guards to protect the people from themselves, but it has simply blundered into the folly of mistaking forms for remedies. Municipal corruption has its source in the facilities to borrow money and to hide its stealings under a bonded debt. Cut off that facility and you cut of the corruption. A simple form of government with but few powers, and which will compel municipalities to pay as they go, and to raise by taxation whatever they spend, will accomplish much more than complicated forms and multiplied guards against frauds, which do not root out the real sources of corruption.

It is to be hoped that the people will learn this, after awhile; but in the meantime they seem doomed to be tantalized with empty remedies and fruitless attempts at reform. Charlatanism in matters of government is as detestable as it is in medicine; and he will be the true reformer who first leads the way in adopting the radical remedy of absolutely and forever prohibiting the further accumulation of municipal indebtedness.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

O, Congress! Give us more turkey and less talk.

Pinchback's stock is assuming a more genuine character.

Senator Morton will resume his serial Mississippi speech to-day.

A judicial 'ear-ing is being had in New York over a fifty cent breast pin.

Should Eli Perkins really go on the stage it will probably be as a "supe."

The supply of centenarians continues to increase at the rate of ten or twelve a day.

The yield of borax last year, wholly from California and Nevada, was 5,433,658 pounds.

The first great want of the age is industry, the second prudence, and the third contentment.

This singular winter is particularly singular in the fact that there is everywhere a good stand of wheat.

Six members of the last Massachusetts Legislature have turned out badly, Winslow being the latest.

Laramie, Wyoming Territory, is developing quite a gold mine, and puts a $2,000 brick in the Centennial.

Democratic civilization down in Texas is of the red hot kind. A mob burned a negro to a crisp, the other day.

Last week was notable in Wall street for a marked advance in United States bonds and other safe securities.

The anti-vaccinationists have broken out again in England as rabidly as in the days of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu.

A strong anti-opium society has been organized in India, to discourage the propagation and use of the noxious drug.

The Maine prohibitionists are trying to get up a corner on State cider, which is about the poorest cider in the world.

France is going to send six hundred and seventy oil paintings to the centennial. This will be palette able news to artists.

The might of little things. One cent a bushel makes a difference of ten millions of dollars in the value of our annual corn crop.

The figurative fellow of the New York *Commercial Advertiser* has spoke to say here are 13,911 wheeled vehicles in that city.

Taking care of themselves. A bill has been introduced in Congress providing for an inebriate asylum in the District of Columbia.

They say that Winslow, the fugitive forger, took with him two hundred thousands dollars in gold. Anyhow he's "well off."

We shall make the most imposing display of precious metals at the centennial exhibition which has ever been made by any nation.

The scene on the centennial grounds is said to be suggestive of a human bee-hive. It is one of the most gratifying spectacles of activity ever witnessed.

Winslow's career proves that "thou shalt not get found out" is not one of the commandments, and that no man can be saved by trying to keep it.

The old story. Of 34,333 persons arrested in Philadelphia last year, 21,000, or nearly 70 per cent., were clearly traceable to the abuse of intoxicating liquors.

The Georgia Legislature is incorporating numerous gold mines. There has lately been a considerable investment of foreign capital in this branch of adventure in that State.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." Flood, the California banker, made $300,000 recently in one day's mining operations.

A certain Texas editor describes a recent gorgeous sunset down there as resembling a ripe pumpkin wrapped in the American flag. He should be engaged as centennial poet.

A Wisconsin theorist has an idea. He would give the American citizen a vote at twenty-one, as at present; two votes at forty-two; and three votes at sixty-three. Guess he's that old.

A mountain of wealth. The value of the one hundred and fifty tons of silver bullion from the Nevada "Consolidated mine," to be exhibited at the centennial, will be $10,000,000 in gold.

Onondaga county, New York, is the first to respond to the suggestion of the centennial commission that every place get up its local history for the centennial year. What's Pittsburgh doing?

The Boston *Post* is to go on as usual, notwithstanding its embarrassments through the operations of the swindler Winslow. The *Post* is the ablest and decentest Democratic paper in the country.

The New York *Herald* affirms that there is not a first rate newspaper printed between the Harlem river and the banks of Newfoundland. The Springfield *Republican* should have something to say to this.

Sweary days and nights, so still, so still—
The useless sails hang flapping stiff and slow,
We pine and chafe, and set our helpless will
In vain revolt at what to change, to know
Is not for us. We hear the strong winds blow
And fret as in the east, the west, we see
Great ships and small go sliding fast and free."

PERSONAL.

David T. Sleeper, of Sandown, N. H., is not a sleeper. Although totally blind, he is able to reap, mow, thresh, chop down trees, cut up cord wood, make ax handles, fix goads, and go around the neighborhood with little assistance or direction from any one.

Mr. W. W. Garry of Huntingdon, this State, who has spent nearly his entire lifetime in the study of magnets, claims to have invented a compounding which completely nullifies the power of a magnet when desirable. It is the discovery of an art long lost.

Among the curiosities that have found their way into the room of the Committee on Claims is a $2,400 bill for the relief of Mrs. ex-President James K. Polk, for property destroyed by the United States army in Yalabusha county, Mississippi.

The Sheriff of King's county, New York, has just received an execution on a judgment for $156,009, rendered in favor of the creditors of ex-Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island. No property has as yet been found by the Sheriff which could be attached.

The spunky Smith sisters, of Glastonbury, Connecticut, put their case peculiarly when they say in their printed defense that they told the officers of the town that they did not refuse to pay taxes; there was no need in it. The officers owned their property and in the name of taxes could take anything they pleased.

A San Francisco paper has a fresh new fashion in the publication of birth notices, as will be seen by the following:

CROSBIE—Sunday, January 9th, to Hattie and John C. Crosbie, a son. Mother and child doing well; thanks to Dr. Langdon.

This is a new style of puffing all the compliments of a successful physician, but suppose he had not been, how would it look to say: "Mother and child doing badly; thanks to the stupidity of Dr. Langdon!" The San Francisco paper has established a dangerous precedent.

Democratic courtesy. The other day one of the new Confederate doorkeepers of the House, at Washington, upon being requested by a military officer of high rank to take his card to the colored member from Virginia, replied that he did not know him, and that they did not take any stock there in niggers. In spite of his insisting that the man should take his card, he refused, and the officer was obliged to leave without communicating with the member he was desirous of seeing. Another doorkeeper, when the floor was cleared, repeatedly insisted that Mr. Haralson, the colored member, should go out, telling him his place was in the gallery, behind the clock. The whole thing was evidently intended as an insult.

THE Greensville *Argus*, commenting on Senator Anderson's proposition to exempt $1,000 from seizure in this State, says:

"While the amount is without doubt to high the subject itself deserves serious consideration. But it would be better if the Legislature would strike at the root of the whole evil and forbid the courts to allow judgment to be confessed, or warrant of attorney, or judgment to be confessed without summons first having been issued. Passing exemption laws and then allow them to be waived by the debtor has a tendency to lower the tone of commercial honor, and the intention of the Legislature to provide something for a reckless or careless debtor's family thereby defeated. It likewise begets a species of sharp dealing. The creditor, to secure himself, demands a judgment note waiving exempt ation, etc., fearing to be overreached by some shrewder antagonist; and the debtor feeling the want of confidence of his creditor and the lack of any appeal to his honor or integrity, too often consigns the whole matter as one in which he is the smartest man who can overreach the other."

The new ax factory at Huntingdon, Pa., will have a capacity of three hundred axes a day.

A DEMOCRATIC SHINDY.

Randall's Leadership Ended—The Slumbering Democratic Vesuvius—An Overwhelming Eruption Coming on Randall—The Lancaster Convention.

(Washington (Jan. 29) Correspondence of Philadelphia Times.)

There has been a smothered but rambling volcano in the Pennsylvania Democratic delegation here that must end in a violent eruption sooner or later. It has been carefully concealed from the public until quite recently, but little by little it has been slopping over until now the position of the Keystone delegation is well understood in all intelligent circles. The delegation in the House gave a solid vote for Mr. Randall in caucus for Speaker, although not less than six more than doubted the wisdom of his election. They, however, felt that the State should not present a divided front and wash its soiled linen before the eyes of the nation, and they sustained him with fidelity. Senator Wallace, although furnished with abundant provocation by Mr. Randall's immediate friends, yielded all personal feeling and earnestly advised unanimity in the support of Mr. Randall. But Mr. Randall was beaten without the appearance of opposition here from his own State, and the Lancaster *Intelligencer*, regarded here as Mr. Randall's personal organ, impugned the fidelity of a member of the delegation, and made repeated and violent assaults on Senator Wallace. The fire coming from sources which it was believed Mr. Randall either inspired or certainly could control, did much to inflame the smouldering bitterness of former estrangements, and there has not been a day since the nomination of Kerr that the breach has not widened between the members of the delegation and the factious feeling been intensified.

The inside history of the Speaker's contest has yet to be written. Randall was defeated by a caucus that wanted to give the honor to Pennsylvania, and he was beaten after he had the glittering prize in his own hands. Before the last election in Pennsylvania he would have been nominated beyond a doubt, and had Congress organized on the 4th of March last, as did the previous Congress, he would have been chosen without a contest. Nor was it Erie that overthrew him. It was a wound, but not a fatal one. It was his double-dealing with friends, and the general distrust brought upon himself by his surroundings and unfortunate actions that made his election impossible. He had the delegation solid, and could have had it devoted to him, but alienated part of it by folly. He had Senator Wallace enlisted in behalf of unity and a Randall triumph; but while he had the support of all he allowed them to be enfiladed on both flanks and hot shot to be poured into them from the rear, until forbearance ceased to be a virtue. And how bravely the Pennsylvania delegation stood to Randall the Democracy of the State can hardly appreciate. It required courage to do it. His surroundings smirched him with dishonor and were a standing menace to the party that, if Randall succeeded, it would be but a victory of Grant, Robeson, Boss Shepherd, Billy McMullen and John Morrissey. Blaine was openly, anxiously for him. Every Republican newspaper in the city espoused his cause and did valiant battle for him from day to day in their editorial columns. Hurley, McMullen, Morrissey and Fiedler were his bottle-holders, and seemed to have charge of his contest, and Dallas Sanders, John R. Reed, General Spear and Sam Josephs dilted about as skirmishers. Morrissey opened the gambling pools, arranged the bets, and had them telegraphed throughout the country to inspire the movement, and promiscuous hilarity made tuneless music at his headquarters. Promises of places under the Grant departments at Washington, in the New York Land and Post-office building and Arsenal in Philadelphia, were given with profusion, and it was demonstrated that the promises were not made without warrant. A candidate thus surrounded was defeated simply because his election was an impossibility, and Kerr triumphed by standing and waiting for the ripe fruit of Democratic judgment to drop into his hands. His friends were cool, fearless, honest, and offended no Democratic purpose to take a Democratic House the forerunner of practical reform.

The inevitable defeat came, and since then the elements of discord have not been quieted, but rather fanned into flame. To-day there is more opposition to Mr. Randall in the delegation than he can afford to have if he hopes to be in anywise a leader. Indeed, excepting Mr. Clymer and Mr. Hopkins, all are either chilled in their friendship or outspoken in their condemnation. The distribution of the patronage to the delegation was committed to Mr. Randall and Mr. Clymer, and their use of the power is bitterly complained of. Randall got the best position for Al. F. Keiper, and Hurley came in under Fletcher, while the main portion of the delegation received little or nothing. But such disappointments perish in a little time, and if there were no other grounds for hostility to Mr. Randall they would not be crystalized into a positive, aggressive element as they are to-day. His assumed leadership on the Amnesty bill was the feather that broke the camel's back and practically ended his leadership. He is blamed for precipitating the issue inopportunely, and then managing it so badly as to make it a signal disaster to the party and the country. These misgivings, coming from what is now an overwhelming organization in the delegation, would be of little moment to the public but for the fact that the war is now being transferred to Pennsylvania. Randall is struggling, by the lavish use of both Democratic and Grant power, to control the Lancaster convention, and should a majority of the delegate member of Congress has defected Randall's direct intervention in his district to make Randall a delegate at large to the National Convention. Calm as the surface looks the war is going on, and if Randall can survive the hostility of his delegation and the favor of his McMullen friends in Philadelphia he must prove himself a man of extraordinary power. This war must come to the surface now, and the readers of the *Times* may as well be ready to see and enjoy the show.

The Ohio River.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

A continuous six foot stage of water would make the Ohio river one of the grandest thoroughfares of trade and travel on this continent, and would build our city, in population and wealth, beyond the largest expectations of the most sanguine. Such a statement needs no statistics—no elaboration of facts, no array of columns of newspaper space to demonstrate. The question, the great question, is, how to secure this continuous six foot stage without creating such *artificial* obstructions as will practically destroy the river as a cheap line of transportation. The improvement, as proposed by Col. Merrill, to secure this "six foot stage," directly and positively creates such disabilities upon the great *towing* trade, whether of coal or merchandise, as will eventually destroy the same, by extra delays and accumulating expenses. Forty-three dams between Pittsburgh and Louisville, with the necessary forty-three channel ways, of four hundred feet, walled in on each side, by piers or abutments, would be equal to forty-three bridge channels; and as tow-fleets do land and tie up, every trip, so as to secure daylight to run bridge channels, so they would have to land and tie up, every trip and every night, so as to secure daylight to run these dam channel ways, thus requiring double time for each trip, and of course double expenses, and, therefore, destroying the vital element—cheapness. And as the great Kanawha coal fields are more than one-half nearer Cincinnati than Pittsburgh, shippers from there would only have one-half of these obstructions to run; and, as a result, would transfer the coast coal trade of Pittsburgh to Kanawha, with our numerous towboats and the thousands of men interested in this trade. So much for the effects upon the proposed improvement on the towing trade; so that if the Coal Exchange has sent delegates to Washington, it is to save *their* trade and not the Ohio river in the interest of cheap transportation.

What will be the effect of the "improvement" on what is known as the "freight trade?" Let us see. Navigation all the chutes are closed and freight and passenger boats are compelled to pass through the locks, and there are 2,000 tons of freight at Louisville to come to Pittsburgh. The question is as to the *cheapest* transportation, by rail or river. The river route has to overcome the disabilities and drawbacks of forty-three artificial channel and flood-tide delays, and forty-three extra expenses. Is it not clear to every practical mind, that a continuous six foot stage of water, secured by imposing upon the passage of a freight boat from Pittsburgh to Louisville and return the expense and detention of eighty-six lockages, would effectually close the river as a cheap line of freight transportation, to say nothing of passenger trade?

These are but a few hurried suggestions of the manifold evils likely, may sure, to result from the expenditure of fifty or seventy-five millions of dollars in the proposed improvement of the Ohio river.

If your theoretical and visionary correspondent is disposed to continue this discussion, and you are disposed to fill your columns with fiction, let him proceed, and the "coal men" will meet him with facts.

D.

Responsibility for Raised Checks.

A decision of wide interest regarding the responsibility of makers of checks that are raised, or notes that are altered, has just been rendered by Judge Sharswood, of the Supreme Court. He holds that a maker who makes a note or check in such a way as to make alteration easy, or to invite it, is liable to a bona-fide holder who takes it before maturity for value. But if the maker had used the ordinary precautions he would not be so liable, any more than for downright forgery. Omitting to "scroll" the blank spaces after the words and figures of the instruments, and signing contracts for other documents in such a way that they could be severed, and a perfect negotiable note obtained, would be instances of negligence that would render the maker liable. The question whether proper precautions had been taken was one for the jury to decide.

We now export annually 10,000,000 pounds of butter and 100,000,000 pounds of cheese, at a value of $25,000,000.

THE PRESIDENCY.

General Hartranft a Candidate.

A Philadelphia letter to the New York *Tribune* says: "A very important movement is now being discussed by the Republican politicians of the State. It has for its object the bringing forward of Governor Hartranft as a candidate for the Presidential nomination—not a candidate to receive the complimentary vote of the Pennsylvania delegation on the first ballot and then to be set aside, but one to struggle with the strong contestants for the prize.

"When such men as Conkling, Hayes, Washburne and Morton are advanced as statesmen for the emergency, the friends of Governor Hartranft do not see why he should be backward about entering the lists. They think his claims on the score of both record and availability are superior to those of either of the candidates now prominently named. He has carried Pennsylvania at four elections, twice at the head of his ticket as Auditor General, and twice as Governor. Two of these elections—those of 1868 and 1872—were fiercely contested, and his victory determined the issue of the Presidential canvass then in progress. He has made the State trustworthily Republican, as it never was before his entry into politics.

"As far as can be learned, all the Republican politicians of any account in the State are favorable to the project, and there appears to be no good reason why it should not have as fair a chance of succeeding as any other Presidential scheme now on the carpet. A great deal might be said in favor of Governor Hartranft as an available candidate. He has most of General Grant's good qualities; he is quiet, reticent, unaffected, averse to speech-making, firm in his opinions, true in his friendships, and immovable when once he has made up his mind. He has never regarded his office as something belonging to him personally. On the contrary, throughout his whole official career he has manifested a strong sense of his duty and responsibility to the State, and has thus won the praise of all parties for his conscientious and impersonal administration. To have made a good Governor of a great State like Pennsylvania is as strong a recommendation as a man can have for the Presidency.

"In Pennsylvania, as in New York, the right performance of the duties of the Executive office requires administrative abilities of a high order. If military reputation is to count for anything in the coming canvass General Hartranft has an army record unexcelled by that of any volunteer officer."

Strengthening the Hold on Life.

Life is dear to most, if not all of us, and those whose tenure of it is rendered uncertain by feeble health, would gladly strengthen their hold upon existence. The best advice that can be given to the debilitated is to invigorate with that sovereign vitalizer, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which fertilizes the blood by insuring complete nutrition, and is an excellent remedy for those maladies which are the main causes of physical weakness. Indigestion, inactivity of the liver, urinary troubles, rheumatic complaints, and many other ailments and disabilities are speedily conquered by this safe, prompt and agreeable corrective tonic, which is, beside, a reliable preventative of chills and fever, and other malarial disorders, counteracts the effects of fatigue and exposure, and is a beneficial solace to the aged and infirm.

E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron

Gives tone to the stomach, improves the appetite and assists digestion; excites the bowels to healthy action, expelling all the foul humors that contaminate the blood, corrupt the secretions and offend the breath. Healthy action in the liver to a healthy action and strengthens the nerves, imparting that glow to life that proceeds alone from perfect health. Thousands in all walks of life testify to the virtues of this excellent medicine in correcting the derangement of the digestive organs. Be sure the genuine. Sold only in $1 bottles. Ask for E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON, and take no other.

Dyspepsia. Dyspepsia. Dyspepsia.

E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON, a sure cure for this disease. It has been proved daily for many years in the practice of eminent physicians with unparalleled success. Symptoms are loss of appetite, wind and rising of food, dryness in mouth, headache, dizziness, sleeplessness and low spirits. Get the genuine. Sold in bulk, only $1 bottles.

Do you want something to strengthen you, or a good appetite? Do you want to get rid of nervousness? Do you want energy, sleep well, or be cured of dyspepsia, kidney or liver disease? Try E. F. KUNKEL'S BITTER WINE OF IRON. Every bottle guaranteed to do as recommended. Sold only in $1 bottles. Depot and office, 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia. Get pamphlet free of any druggists. Ask for E. F. Kunkel's, and take no other.

Tape Worm

Removed alive with head complete, in from two to three hours. No fee till removed, by Dr. F. BRUNOL, 259 North Ninth street, Philadelphia. Seat Pin and Stomach Worms also removed. Call and advise with us free, or send for circular. Ask your druggist for KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price, $1 per bottle. NWF

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43 South Diamond St., Allegheny City.

W. W. MARTIN.....President.
JAMES E. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

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Assets January 1, 1875 - $778,251 56.

CHARTERED IN 1868.

Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 8 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of SIX Per Cent. computed from the first day of each month, for if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

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The Penn Mutual is one of the oldest Life Companies in the country. It has made dividends annually to its members since the year 1849, inclusive. It is managed economically; selects its risks carefully; pays its losses promptly, and has all its investments generally. Its dividends may be applied to increase the premium the second year, or to increase the insurance. Its policies are non-forfeiting after the third annual payment. *Endowment policies issued at life rates.*

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Thorough Instruction in Civil Engineering, the Classics and English. Careful attention to the morals and manners of Cadets. For Circulars apply to CHARLES H. PAULSON, Esq., No. 112 Wood street, Pittsburgh, Pa., or to

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LEGAL.

H. H. McCORMICK,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

No. 62 Grant street, Pittsburgh.

ERNEST DECKENBACH VS. JACOB MEYER.

Court of Common Pleas No. 1. No. 214 March T., 1872.

The undersigned, Master in the above case, having been directed by the Court to distribute to and among the persons legally entitled to the same, the fund arising from the sale of the partnership property belonging to Jacob Meyer and Ernest Deckenbach, situate in Diamond street, Pittsburgh, and sold on August 23, 1875, by order of said Court, hereby gives notice that he will attend to the duties of his appointment at his office, on 62 Grant street, Pittsburgh, on Monday, February 15, 1876, at 2 o'clock P. M., when and where all persons having claims to said fund will present them to him.

H. H. McCORMICK,
Master.

Bruce & Negley,

ATTORNEYS.

TAKE NOTICE THAT THE "DUQUESNE GLASS MANUFACTURING COMPANY" have petitioned the Court of Common Pleas No. 1 of Allegheny county, at No. 214 March term, 1876, for a dissolution of said corporation, and said Court have directed that if no cause be shown to the contrary, before February 5, 1876, the Court will on that day decree a dissolution, in accordance with the prayer of the petition.

E. F. KENNEDY,
Prothonotary.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In the matter of IRVING C. BRETT and CHARLES C. BRETT, late copartners as K. BRETT & SONS, Bankrupts under the act of Congress of March 2d, 1867, having applied for a discharge from all their debts, and other claims provable under said act, by order of the Court. Notice is hereby given, to all persons who have proved their debts and other persons interested, to appear on the 21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1876, at 11 o'clock A. M., before SAMUEL HARPER, Esq., Register, at his office, No. 98 Diamond street, Pittsburgh, to show cause, if any they have, why the discharge should not be granted to the said Bankrupts.

S. C. MCCANDLESS, Clerk.

DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA. In Bankruptcy.

This is to give notice that on the 28TH day of January, A. D. 1876, a Warrant in Bankruptcy has issued against the estate of M. B. PARSONS, of Millertown, in the county of Butler and State of Pennsylvania, who has been adjudged a Bankrupt upon his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to such Bankrupt, to him or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him, are forbidden by law. That a meeting of the creditors of the said Bankrupt, to prove their debts and to choose one or more

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, January 29, 1876.

There is no change to report in monetary affairs in the Pittsburgh market to-day. The general characteristics of the past few days still continue, and with an abundant supply of loanable funds it is difficult to find satisfactory paper in sufficient quantities to absorb the surplus.

The rates for money may be said to be nominal; parties whose credit and responsibility are beyond question can obtain loans at low rates, while those engaged in business with only fair credit and small capital are compelled by force of circumstances to pay higher rates.

Confidence is steadily returning among all classes, and many of our oldest merchants echo the sentiments of a larger number of shrewd financiers to the effect that the year 1876 will be characterized by a marked improvement throughout the ramifications of trade and commerce. We are pleased to chronicle a disposition among business men to take a more cheerful view of the future, especially as so many favorable elements exist to render a change for the better easy enough with a return of confidence. The cautious policy pursued by all classes since 1873, which has reduced the stock of manufactured goods in the country to a very low limit, the decline in the cost of articles for consumption, cheap labor, and many other equally potent reasons might be given to strengthen the argument of those who do not consider continual croaking a necessity of their existence.

—The report of the operations of the Pittsburgh Clearing House for the week ending January 29, 1876, is as follows:

Exchanges.	Balances.
Monday	$ 925,072 57 $ 159,050 85
Tuesday	820,947 16 127,052 84
Wednesday	808,578 85 124,038 44
Thursday	724,248 63 135,247 13
Friday	716,532 79 118,135 79
Saturday	699,791 57 139,525 22
Total	$4,673,745 03 $ 809,988 27

—Our reports of the condition of foreign trade present some points of fresh business interest. The troubles of the iron trade bids fair to be complicated by another serious struggle between employers and employed; but from Birmingham we have more cheerful accounts. Business there is on the mend, and the outlook for the future, even with the United States, is called quite encouraging. A statement concerning the imports of leather into British ports develops the fact that the import receipts last year were nearly forty per cent. in excess of those of 1874. The plethora is traceable chiefly to increased arrivals from American ports.

—The bank robbery at Northampton, Massachusetts, is one of those occurrences before which men stand appalled and almost stupified. The enormous amount of money and securities stolen is not more startling than the ease with which the robbery was accomplished and the feeling of insecurity it tends to produce. Apparently every possible precaution had been taken. The vault was provided at great cost with complicated and difficult locks, guarded by ingenius devices of all sorts, and the depositors had every reason to think their treasures secure beyond a doubt. The event proves, however, that steel is not a match for burglars with a secret attached to their use, and all the other safeguards employed, offer scarcely greater protection against the shrewdness of skilled burglars than an ordinary bureau drawer might. What shall we do with our money and bonds? is a question which many will ask, and until some better plan than any that has yet been discovered shall be developed, no answer can occur. It seems, since the ingenuity which assails is equal to the ingenuity which defends, that safety can be secured only by keeping banks under the care of watchful and trusty men during the night time, just as we do now during the daytime.

OFFICE OF TRADE & STONE,
BANKERS AND BROKERS, NO. 7 NEW STREET,
NEW YORK, January 29, 1876.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The stock market has been very active all day, in fact a large amount of all the leading stocks have changed hands and the speculation on the Stock Exchange has already become more extended than for a long time past. At the opening of business this morning the sole desire seemed to be to buy stocks, the Chicago and Northwestern and the St. Paul stocks being the chief attractions. The sudden and remarkable advance in these shares immparted like strength to Lake Shore, Western Union and Pacific Mail.

After the second call there was a noticeable desire to realize at the improved quotations, and before the close there was a reaction in prices varying from ¼ to 1¾ per cent.

There is an opinion expressed here, that the state of Wisconsin will voluntarily repeal the Potter law, and this stimulated confidence in all the Western roads.

We still look for higher prices for stocks, but of course we expect reactions as a result of increased speculation.

Money remains easy at four per cent. on call.

Yours truly,
TRADE & STONE.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:00 P.M.
Gold	113	113¼	113	113	113
U. S. 6-20s, 1881, coup	122½	122½	....	....	....
6-20s, 1865	118	118	....	....	....
6-20s, 1865, new	119½	119½	....	....	....
6-20s, 1867, registered	122	122	....	....	....
6-20s, 1867	122½	122½	....	....	....
6-20s, 1868	122¾	122¾	....	....	....
10-40s, coupons	119¾	119¾	....	....	....
10-40s, registered	119¾	119¾	....	....	....
Currency 6's	124½	124½	....	....	....
Pacific Mail	38⅝	38¾	38¾	38⅝	38¾
Panama	134½	135	....	....	....
Adams Express	104⅝	....	104½	....	....
Wells-Fargo Express	36	36¼	36¼	....	....
American Express	58¼	....	58¾	....	....
United States Express	61	....	60	....	....
New York Central	112	....	112	111⅞	111⅞
Erie	21¾	....	21¾	....	....
Michigan Central	61¾	61¾	61	....	61¾
Michigan Southern	67⅞	....	67⅞	67⅞	67⅞
Illinois Central	97½	....	97½	....	....
Erie, & Pittsburgh	93	....	93	....	94
Chicago & Northwestern	47¾	....	47¾	....	47¾
Do preferred	69¾	....	69¾	....	69¾
Rock Island	100	....	100	100¼	100¾
St. Paul common	41¾	....	42⅝	41¾	42⅜
Do preferred	76¾	....	76¾	....	76¾
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	86¾	....	86¾	....	....
Fort Wayne	100¾	....	....	....	....
Ohio & Mississippi	18	....	18	....	....
Chicago & Alton	104¾	....	....	....	....
Do preferred	120	....	....	....	....
Burling'n & Qu'cy	118	....	....	....	....
Hannibal & St. Jos	21¾	....	....	....	....
Delaware & Lack	118¾	....	....	....	....
Atlantic & P. Tel	23¾	....	....	....	....
Union Pac. bonds	105¾	....	....	....	....
Union Pac. stock	70¾	....	....	....	....
Union Pac. bonds, 1081	105	....	....	....	....
Wabash	6	....	....	....	....
Do preferred	7	....	....	....	....
Fort Wayne	100¾	....	....	....	....
Terre Haute	9	....	....	....	....
Do preferred	21¾	....	....	....	....
Ohio & Mississippi 18	....	....	....	....	....
Chicago & Alton 104¾	....	....	....	....	....
Do preferred 120	....	....	....	....	....
Burling'n & Qu'cy 118	....	....	....	....	....
Hannibal & St. Jos 21¾	....	....	....	....	....
Delaware & Lack 118¾	....	....	....	....	....
Atlantic & P. Tel 23¾	....	....	....	....	....
Union Pac. bonds 105¾	....	....	....	....	....
Union Pac. stock 70¾	....	....	....	....	....
Union Pac. bonds, 1081 105	....	....	....	....	....
Wabash 6	....	....	....	....	....
Do preferred 7	....	....	....	....	....
Fort Wayne 100¾	....	....	....	....	....
Terre Haute 9	....	....	....	....	....
Do preferred 21¾	....

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

County Official Paper.

The County Commissioners,at a meeting last Saturday, selected the *Commercial* as one of the county printers for the ensuing year.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank PITTSBURGH, PA., January 30, 1876. }

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	WIND. Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	30.024	18	68	N. W.	Gentle	Cloudy
2 P. M..	30.490	27	66	S. W.	Fresh.	Clear.
9 P. M..	30.341	26	76	N. E.	Light.	Clear.

Mean barometer...30.449 Highest thermom....35
Mean thermom.....24.2 Lowest thermom....18

Pittsburgh Female College.

Next term commences February 4th. Send for catalogue to Rev. I. C. Pershing, D. D., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dr. Hunter

Devotes special attention to diseases of the throat, lungs and ears. Office, No. 178 Fourth avenue, above Grant street. Office hours from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. FMWF

Iron City College,

corner Penn avenue and Sixth street. Open day and evening. Students received at any time. For terms, call or address J. C. Smith, A. M., Principal.

The "Mah-hah-Bone"

Mr. J. H. H. Woodward, of Cincinnati, is about to commence in that city the publication of a weekly anti-Masonic paper, to be called the *Mah-hah bone*.

Religious Services.

During the week until Friday evening services will be held in the First Presbyterian church, corner of Sixth avenue and Wood street, at 7½ o'clock P. M. Rev. Dr. Richard Allen, of Philadelphia, will preach each evening. Prayer and inquiry meeting after each sermon. The public are cordially invited.

Counterfeiters Arrested.

Two men, named Jackson Conway and Leai Fike, of Mercer, Pa., were examined before United States Commissioner Jones, in Youngstown, Ohio, Saturday, on the charge of passing counterfeit postal currency. A quantity of "queer" scrip, of the denomination of fifty cents, was found in their possession. The accused were committed for trial. They are supposed to be members of a gang of counterfeiters who have their headquarters in Mercer county.

Dwelling Burned.

About three o'clock yesterday morning fire was discovered in an unoccupied frame dwelling at Brownsville avenue, in the Thirty-first ward, South Side. An alarm was given but the flames had gained great headway, and on the arrival of the firemen it was too late to do much good. The house was totally destroyed. About a year ago it slid from its position and the owner, Mr. Woodburn, did not consider it worth replacing in position. The fire was probably an incendiary one, as, it is said, tramps were seen there on Saturday evening.

The Sunday School Normal Class.

The future sessions of the Union Normal Class of Pittsburgh Sunday school workers, will be held in the Smithfield street M. E. Church, by the decision of the Board of Managers. The class will meet to-morrow, Tuesday, evening. Topic for discussion: The Bible: the Classification and Design of its several books. Rev. Robert S. Miller, Normal Instructor.

The thoughts of this grand host of lesson-makers of our land are secured in the meetings of this normal class, and Sunday school workers should avail themselves of the privileges of attendance.

Attempted Suicide.

About two o'clock yesterday afternoon a man named C. R. Rosenfelt, deliberately walked into the Allegheny river near the foot of Tenth street with the intention of committing suicide by drowning. Persons who saw the act called Officer John Tetley, who happened to be in the neighborhood, and the man was with some difficulty rescued. He appeared not to want to come out. After being taken to the Central Station it was ascertained who he was and that he is demented. Rosenfelt is a man nearly fifty years of age and a music teacher by profession. He was recently at the paper farm, to which he will be again returned.

Slide of a School House.

A narrow escape was made by children of one of the public school houses of the Thirty-sixth ward, Temperanceville, on Friday afternoon. The building stands on the upper side of Main street, against the hill side. The first floor, occupied by the smaller children, is on a level with Main street, while the entrance to the second floor rooms is from the hill in the rear. The recent heavy rains have washed a considerable amount of earth from the hill side. Just before time of calling the school to order, the side wall of the building, in the basement story caved in, burying under the rubbish some sixteen seats. Fortunately the children were playing outside of the room at the time, and they consequently escaped uninjured.

Suit for Damages.

Nicholas Fitzgerald and wife commenced proceedings in the Common Pleas Court No. 1 Saturday to recover damages in the amount of three thousand dollars from John Wallace and Wm. Irwin, partners as the firm of Wallace & Irwin, livery stable keepers. It is alleged on the part of the plaintiffs that on the 12th of last July Mrs. Fitzgerald was attending a funeral in one of the carriages owned by the defendants. While proceeding through the Thirty-sixth ward driving down a hill, the horses became frightened and ran away. The driver jumped out, thus leaving the horses to take their own course. The carriage was turned over, and Mrs. Fitzgerald thrown out and had her hip dislocated, from which injury she was confined to her bed for fourteen weeks.

A Counterfeit Case.

On the person of Charles Howard, recently arrested by the city police, were found counterfeit twenty dollar gold coins. On being taken before Commissioner Gamble, Howard claimed that the coins had been purchased at a toy shop in Cincinnati, and that he had no criminal intent. On Saturday detective O'Mara discovered a rather unexpected witness, in the person of a German woman keeping a store on Fourth avenue. On the day before the accused was arrested he visited the woman's store, purchased two dollars' worth of goods, and gave her a twenty dollar "spiel mark" in payment. He told her he was just from California, and she was delighted to receive gold, that she alleges she gave him eighteen dollars in greenbacks as change. Howard will have a hearing next Tuesday.

Tax Additions and Exonerations.

City Assessor Phelps returned to Controller Snodgrass on Saturday a report of the additional taxes levied and the exonerations in the city since his report in June, 1875, the latter being by order of the Committee on Appeals and by County Commissioners. The exonerations were made on opinion delivered that rural property in the South Side wards was liable for two-thirds of the tax as assessed:

	Additional assessments.	Exonerations.
City	$ 325 53	$1,149 96
Water Works interest	124 15	1,567 84
Sinking fund	93 44	1,183 66
City old special	93 44	1,183 66
Lawrenceville special	14 76	234 26
Twenty-fourth ward special		114 94
Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth ward special	36 50	121 76
Twenty - seventh ward special		122 59
Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth wards special	2 00	158 02
Thirty-first ward special		8 08
Thirty-second ward special	80	95 52
Thirty-fifth ward special	18	2 33
Thirty-sixth ward special		167 88
Total	1,024 25	.....
	$1,733 13	$9,076 67

RURAL ROBBERY.

The Suspected Perpetrator in Limbo.

Edward Dempsey was arrested in this city last Saturday as a suspicious person. Nothing was proved against him in the city, but it was found that he had been operating in the country. The grocery of Christian Seibert, at Milvale, was robbed a few nights ago of a large quantity of goods, and Mr. Seibert made an information before Justice Scott, charging Dempsey with the robbery. It was also believed that another young man was implicated. Search warrants were issued and some sixty-four sacks of flour were found in the house of a relative of one of the young men. It was also ascertained that the thieves had secured a horse and wagon belonging to one of their relatives, and were peddling the goods through the country. When the burglars learned that a charge had been preferred against them they both fled, Dempsey coming to this city. His actions were very suspicious here, and a day or two ago the police arrested him as a suspicious character, although they had no knowledge of the burglary at Milvale when the arrest was made. The suspicious character was confined in the Central police station, and on Saturday it was ascertained that he was one of the parties wanted by Justice Scott, and he was turned over to that magistrate. His alleged accomplice is still at liberty.

The scale of prices of the South Side window glass factories was lowered ten per cent. Saturday.

THE COUNTY FINANCES.

Abstract of Controller's Report for 1875—Exhibit of Receipts and Expenditures, &c., &c.

County Controller Warner submitted his annual report for 1875, last Saturday, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PITTSBURGH, PA., January 1, 1876.

To the Honorable Judges of the Court of Common Pleas No. 1, of Allegheny County:

GENTLEMEN: Herewith I submit the annual statement of the fiscal affairs of Allegheny county, for 1875:

I regret to say that the statement is not so favorable as those of late years. The gross expenditures of the county, when compared with those of 1874, show an increase of $4,672 18, while the gross receipts show a decrease of $55,368 95. This decline in the revenue has no connection with the receipts from liquor licences, as the receipts from that source belong to another fund, and will be referred to in the proper place.

The most notable increase in the expenditures has occurred in the following departments: In fees and salaries to the amount of $7,379 66; in election expenses, $3,152 13; in printing and stationery, $6,216 92; in Court of Quarter Sessions, $7,797 66; in Courts of Common Pleas Nos. 1 and 2, $638 01; in Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, $16,388 59; in bridges, $1,183 99; in Pennsylvania Reform School, $2,213 40; in Contingent Fund, $2,653 90.

On the side of decreased expenditures the items meriting special notice are: In the department of interest to the amount of $2,606 45; in the Coroner's office, $1,211 51; in Western Penitentiary, $9,305 59, or a reduction in a single year of more than one-half of the expense to the county, resulting from the introduction of the congregational system of labor into that institution; in Commissioners' office, $659 04; in assessment of taxes, $21,416 72; in Court House, $4,204 91. The increased expenditures noted are explained as follows: In

FEES AND SALARIES.

The amount of $1,208 32 resulted from the payment of fractional parts of salaries in 1875, which were due for 1874, while all, or nearly all, the salaries for 1875 were paid in full to date. There has been no increase of salary to the chief of any county office during the past year. After deducting the foregoing amount, the balance of the increase in this department is attributable to the increase of number, pay and salaries of clerks and deputies in sundry offices. For the Sheriff's office, the increase for this account amounted to $4,299 21, and for the Prothonotary's office to $2,160. These circumstances were principally caused by the great increase of business in those offices during the past year. It must be borne in mind that while these offices were so largely increased, the revenues derived from them by the county was correspondingly increased. The revenue from fees in the Sheriff's office being $9,960 17 greater in 1875 than in 1874; and in the Prothonotary's office, $3,421 09 greater in 1875 than in 1874. There was an increase in the pay roll of tipstaves for the Court of Common Pleas No. 2, to the amount of $552 71; for Court of Quarter Sessions, $614 70; for Constables, $574 70; for the Orphans' Court during the past year, for the portion of the year covering its existence, added to the expenditures of this department $1,200 00; for jurors' pay and $856 80 for pay of short-hand reporters. These, with the exception of some inconsiderable amounts, embrace all the items of increase in this way. The following officers reduced their expenditures during the year on account of salaries: Clerk of the Orphans' Court, $600 00; Recorder, $500 55; Register, $140; County Commissioners, $844 12; County Treasurer, $163 35; County Controller, $145. These form the principal items of reduced expenditures.

ELECTION EXPENSES.

The increased expenditure from this department was caused by the increased number of election precincts in the county. While this expense bids fair to grow for some time to come, it is questionable whether in the more complete safeguards of the ballot under the provisions of the new Constitution the money is not well spent, as the present system most effectually prevents any tampering with the general results.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY.

The increase in this department was principally caused by the number of advertisements of Sheriff's sales, which was counterbalanced by large collections of the Sheriff on this account.

COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS.

The increase in the expenses of this court can only be explained by the prevalence of crime, the numerous homicide trials of the past year contributing to swell the sum to a very marked degree. Comparing the expenses of this court for the years 1866 and 1875, the very startling discovery is made that during the latter ten years the annual expenditures have much more than trebled in amount. The expenses for 1866, including tipstaves' pay, were $18,913 10-100. Adding the pay of stenographers and tipstaves to the amount reported for 1875 ($57,609 74 100) the, total is $62,747 12 100, showing an increase during the period noted of $43,834 02 100. Nor has this increase resulted from extraordinary causes for a single year, but it has been uniform and constant.

COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS NOS. 1 AND 2.

The increase of expenses in these courts results from an increased and constantly increasing volume of litigation.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The increase in this department resulted from the payment to the State, under the decision of the Supreme Court, of the State tax on writs, collected in former years. These taxes have not all yet been paid. There is still a balance yet due the State of nearly $3,000. This payment swelled the aggregate expenditures for the year sufficient to increase them beyond those of 1874.

BRIDGES.

The increase noted under this head resulted mostly in repairing the damages from the floods of 1874. The new structures in many instances were the circumstances would warrant have been built of iron, which are considered to be more durable and economical in the end than the old style of wooden structures.

PENNSYLVANIA REFORM SCHOOL.

This institution has been increasing its cost to the county very materially for the past two years—resulting from the amount required to pay interest on temporary loans rendered necessary through the neglect of the State Legislature to make appropriate the customary amounts for institutions of this kind. Also the Board of Managers have not reported the earnings of the institution as formerly, but have set them aside for stocking the new farm at Morganza. It is to be hoped that when the removal to the new building and farm at Morganza, which is contemplated, takes place, the expenses of this school will be very greatly reduced.

CONTINGENT FUND.

The increase of items in this appropriation is for sundry purposes, as its name would indicate. Copyist's expenses for copying dockets of Prothonotary, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court being the principal items.

It is a remarkable fact that the entire deficiency existing in the estimated receipts is from taxes, the receipts outside of taxes having been fully up to and exceeding the estimates. This deficiency cannot justly be charged to the high county rate of taxation, for it has been steadily reduced since 1871, and is not now over sixty per cent. of what it was then. Neither can it be ascribed to hard times altogether, but I presume the most likely reason is that the rate in the rural districts has become so low, that unless a very considerable amount of property is owned by the taxpayer it does not justify him in coming to the Treasurer's office to make payment, rather preferring to await the comming of the collector and percentage.

Although there has been a falling off in receipts there does not exist any actual deficiency in the county funds, but only a reduced sum to carry over into the coming year's operations. Every effort will be made to curtail expenses, and I believe no increase of taxation need be feared.

THE NATION TRUST COMPANY.

In 1873, the banking firm known as the Nation Trust Company closed its doors with a deposit due the county of $155,527 67. This company was a legal depository for county funds, selected under direction of act of Assembly, and duly approved by the proper authorities. Until this catastrophe occurred, the credit of this company was undoubted, and, indeed, until a long time after its failure it was believed that all its liabilities would be promptly liquidated. But a long course of untoward events has finally demonstrated that the resources of the stockholders would be scarcely sufficient to meet their liabilities. The county authorities have carefully retained from all compromises which would place the county in a different situation from private creditors. During 1875 the county has received on account of the sum due her $28,975 83, leaving a balance of the principal sum yet due of $128,548 84. The County Commissioners, in November, 1875, agreed to a compromise in bankruptcy with the stockholders of the company, and, along with other creditors, accepted a proposition to have interest added to the accounts up to June 15, 1875, from which date they were to pay cross-fourths of that sum then due each year, namely, on the 15th of June, 1876, '77, '78 and '79, without interest. The above proposition was to have been accompanied with ample security to the county for its performance, which arrangement has not been completed at this date.

PITTSBURGH AND CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD BONDS.

During the month of November, 1875, the Sinking Fund Commission of the county sold to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company the second mortgage bonds of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company, belonging to the county fund, amounting to $209,686 67, at sixty-five per cent. of their face value, stipulating for the payment of interest accrued, and in default on the whole sum up to July 1, 1875. In consideration of the peril in which this whole claim was placed the settlement was a most fortunate one to the county, but again, it must be remembered, that every dollar which these bonds represented was justly due the county, and the difference from the face of the claim and the amount finally received is a dead loss to taxpayers, and to say the least of it, this forced transaction does not indicate good faith or proper judgment on the part of those who forced so worthless a security on the county in payment of a just claim. The money received by the sale of these bonds has, to a great extent, already been applied, and will be in full, to the payment of the county debt.

THE LIQUOR LICENSE FUND.

The receipts on account of this fund for 1875, have been $78,127 50, against $202,235 for 1874, while the number of licenses issued for 1875 amounted to 1,788, against 1,621 for 1874. This large decrease of revenue was the result of the legislation of 1875.

THE COUNTY DEBT.

A large reduction in the county debt has been accomplished during the past year, amounting to $125,295 79, with a balance of cash in the sinking fund, in addition to the annual appropriations required for 1876, of over $80,000, which will be applied to its still further reduction in the incoming year.

This statement has been more particularly itemized than any former report is used from this office, and tables have been constructed which will show at a glance the principal operations of the county in any of its departments. Respectfully submitted. HENRY WARNER, Controller.

The following is a summarized statement of receipts and expenditures of the different departments of the county for 1875:

General Account.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand January 1, 1875	$110,958 46
Transferred from liquor license fund to meet maturing Workhouse bonds	25,000 00
Transferred from liquor license fund for payment of interest on Workhouse bonds	8,750 00
Interest received on daily balances	7,822 39
Fees received from county officers	108,646 31
Official advertising repaid to the county	17,085 10
Fees illegally paid refunded	31 90
Sale of old furniture, carpets, etc	17 00
United States for boarding their prisoners in the county jail	2,125 50
Other districts for prisoners	2 50
Fines and verdict fees from Courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas Nos. 1 and 2	14,333 52
Fines from aldermen and justices	93 00
Gas companies for payment of gas inspection expenses	4,181 04
Fourth avenue Baptist church, for privilege of court house sewer	10 00
Sale of old bridge material	69 60
Taxes 1873 and former years	461 82
Taxes 1874	61,442 21
Taxes 1875	321,142 35
Total receipts onthis account for 1875	$983,162 91

EXPENDITURES.

Debt maturing during the year	$ 25,150 00
Interest on bonded debt	119,991 33
Fees and salaries of county officers, including traveling expenses of Sheriff's deputies	143,314 71
Transcripting dockets for Commissioners and Treasurer's offices, and the various school districts in the county	2,098 12
Election expenses	14,199 33
Assessor's pay for making assessments and registering voters	14,844 71
Jail, Work House and House of Refuge commitments	5,308 31
Coroner's office, for inquests, burial expenses, etc	4,034 01
Printing and stationery	32,125 68
Water rent, insurance, new buildings, alterations, repairs, furniture, etc., for Court House and Jail, including maintenance of prisoners in Jail	25,037 20
Court of Quarter Sessions (criminal)	57,609 74
Court of Common Pleas No. 1	21,446 33
Court of Common Pleas No. 2	21,308 51
Supreme Court	1,125 62
Aldermen and Justices of the Peace	2,225 02
Gas inspection	4,180 90
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	63,858 80
Sinking fund	25,000 00
County buildings	25,188 62
County roads	2,319 10
House of Refuge	20,853 05
Western Pa. Hospital, at Dixmont	1,923 10
Western Penitentiary	7,236 48
Contingent fund	4,389 62
Total expenditures for 1875	$919,720 17
To which amount add outstanding warrants of 1874 paid in 1875	4 00
	$919,730 17
From which amount deduct outstanding warrants of 1875	6 15
	$549,724 02
Surplus for the year, being cash in county treasury	33,438 89
	$883,162 91

Sinking Fund.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Fund, January 1, 1875	$ 1,495 59
Annual appropriation	25,000 00
One year's interest on Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad bonds	12,581 20
Sale of $109,000 97 Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad bonds	136,296 34
	$175,343 13

EXPENDITURES.

By bonds of the county, purchased and cancelled before maturity	$ 94,891 97
Balance in fund	80,541 16
	$175,343 13

Liquor License Fund.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in fund, January 1, 1875	$245,534 15
From licenses during 1875	78,127 50
	$323,661 65

EXPENDITURES

By warrants of Board of Prison Inspectors	$ 88,409 75
Balance in fund	235,251 90
	$323,661 65

County Debt.

Total debt January 1, 1875	$2,254,448 30
Total debt January 1, 1876	2,129,154 51
Reduction during 1875	$ 125,293 79

BEAVER JOTTINGS.

Grand Concert at Beaver College—New Buildings—Judge Agnew, Senator Rutan, Secretary Quay.

The first grand concert of the Centennial year, at Beaver College and Musical Institute, Friday evening last, was quite a success, and, notwithstanding the wet weather, the audience was quite large Visitors were present from Wheeling, W. Va., Mount Pleasant, Ohio, New Castle and Elizabeth, Pa., Allegheny and this city.

The performance opened with an overture "Norma," by Prof. Jackson and Mrs. Blessner on the piano, Prof. Blessner presiding at the organ, followed by a song "Spring is Coming," by Miss Annie Beacom; trio "There is a Land," by Prof. Jackson and Messrs. Talton and Cox, with organ accompaniment by Prof. Blessner; piano duet, by Misses Warfield and Willard; anthem, "The Glory of God," composed by Prof. Blessner; grand chorus, with organ and piano accompaniments; piano duet, "Trovatore" arg'd by Misses Wayand and Cunningham; piano solo, "Irish Diamonds," by Miss Kate Willard; song, "Bird Carol," by Miss Clara Siemmons; "Duo Brilliant," for piano, by Prof. and Mrs. Blessner, closing with a grand serenade, composed by Prof. Blessner, "Good Night, Beloved, Farewell" (Semi-chorus). Prof. Jackson won many encomiums for his skillful music, and Prof. Blessner gave good evidence of his ability as a composer, as well as performer. The former on both instruments, and were it not for his severe style of beating time in conducting a vocal performance, his skill would be unchallenged. Mrs. Blessner in her quiet and artistic piano performances gave much satisfaction. We note in this connection that Miss Willard executed "Irish Diamonds" on the piano with skill. The singing of Misses Siemmons and Beacom was heartily applauded. The superior training of Prof. Jackson was well seen, and Mrs. Dr. Taylor's training in Voice Culture, of which she is a fine specimen, was also a noticeable feature on the occasion.

Special provision is made for the Musical department and separate rooms set apart for practice. Twenty pianos and organs are in use, the Chickering grand piano being one of the finest made by that firm, which, with a superior pipe organ of large size, musical pupils have superior advantages.

The attendance is very large, both in the boarding and day departments. Buildings large and in fine repair. Room and table comforts of an inviting character. President Taylor is leaving nothing undone to make this institution equal the best. The winter term is now in progress, the middle of which will be February 14, and the April term begins April 4th.

Quite a number of new buildings have been erected recently, and doubtless the coming season many others. The new and elegant residences erected within a year or two have given this section quite a brighter look than before. Judge Agnew of the Supreme Court, Senator Rutan and Hon. M. S. Quay, Secretary of State, are residents of this place.

MURDER OR SUICIDE?

Body of an Unknown Man Found in an Abandoned Stone Quarry in Cambria County.

A correspondent writes from Cresson, under Saturday's date, the following account of the finding of a dead body:

"The body of an unknown man was found in an old stone quarry, two miles southeast of the Summit yesterday. It is supposed to have been lying there not less than a year, as decomposition was far advanced; the flesh was entirely gone from the face, and the head was severed from the body and lying ten feet off. It is supposed he either committed suicide or was murdered, from the fact that a revolver and an open knife were found at his side, and a bullet hole through his head. There was nothing on him that would identify him. An old pocket-book containing two pennies was found in his pocket, and one penny was found about ten feet from him on the ground. He appeared to be dressed very comfortably, and did not have the appearance of a common tramp. The place where he was found is a wild, desolate spot, two miles from any residence, and in a heavy thicket of spruce and undergrowth. The county authorities have taken charge of the body, and will hold an inquest to-day, but I am afraid the mystery of his death will never be solved."

THE BOND OF FRIENDSHIP.

The Document Filed in the Register's Office.

The order of the Supreme Court in the Bond of Friendship case, which has been fully stated in these columns, directing the Prothonotary of this District to hold the record for two weeks, has also been mentioned. The two weeks expired last Saturday, and the parties interested were prompt in having the litigated paper registered as a will in the proper office. Shortly after this in accordance with the law, General Sweitzer, Prothonotary of the Supreme Court, received a dispatch from the Prothonotary of that Court in the Eastern District directing him to "hold the record until further order of the Court." The will having by this time been registered it was considered too late on the part of the Supreme Court to interfere, with the document is registered as a will, and Mr. Clark gets the $75,000.

Mr. Hampton, counsel for the other side, thinks the case is not yet ended.

HEALTH STATISTICS OF 1875.

The Annual Report of the Board of Health—Interesting Comparative Figures—The Record of Infectious Diseases—Gratifying Exhibit.

The forthcoming report of the Board of Health, for 1875, promises to be an interesting document, and it is gratifying to state that the statistics of the death rate compare most favorably with previous years. In the matter of infectious diseases, the effective work of the Health Department is shown, and in this particular, the figures are such as prove the efficiency of the officers under the Board during the past year. Want of sufficient clerical force will delay the full exhibit of the statistics of the department for a time, but the work has so far progressed to enable us to give the death rate. The registries of the marriages and births have not yet been completed.

Dr. W. Snively, the painstaking and efficient Physician to the Board, informs us that the total number of deaths for the year 1875 was 2,957, against 3,381 for the year 1874, and 3,519 for the years 1871-2-3. Infectious diseases caused during the year a total of 770 deaths, being 26.04 per cent. of the total mortality from all causes, against 29.46 per cent. for 1874, and 31.53 per cent. for the years 1871-2-3. As compared with former years this exhibit is a gratifying one, and the public and the department may feel a just pride in this heavy reduction in the mortality from preventable causes. The mortality, however, is still too high, for it will be noticed that more than one-fourth of the total number of deaths was due to infectious diseases.

We are enabled to give the following comparison concerning some of the more fatal infectious diseases:

	1875.	1874.	1871-2-3.
Cholera infantum	278	241	202
Scarlet fever	268	353	91
Typhoid fever	120	149	154
Diphtheria	64	53	50
Whooping cough	54	79	49
Small pox	29	...	291
Measles	15	70	52

Citizens have reason to feel grateful that, in addition to the financial distress of the past year, they have not been compelled to bear the burden of excessive sickness. No disease has prevailed epidemically. This is the more fortunate in view of the fact that it is during periods of financial distress that infectious diseases are most prevalent, because of the invasion of the city by tramps, and greater concentration of the indigent class in cheaper and less healthy tenements.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

United States District Court—Before Judge McCandless.

John Emmell, bankrupt, Allegheny. Injunction ordered to issue against John Wilson & Bros. *et al.*

C. H. Harmer, bankrupt, city. Rule granted on Wm. M'C. Dravo to show cause why he should not deliver certain books to assignee. Returnable on 7th inst.

Peter Campbell, bankrupt, Westmoreland county. Order of reference enlarged so as to confer on the Register to report forms of distribution.

James Godfrey, bankrupt, city. Report of Register confirmed absolutely.

Thomas Metzgar & Co., debtors, this city. Order made for a meeting of creditors on the 10th inst.

Case of Walter Byron vs. G. A. Mundorf, Allegheny. Demurrer and demand for a jury trial filed, order made for trial by jury at the special term in February next.

Blackmore & Nelson, bankrupts, city. Rule granted on assignees to show cause why the injunction granted to the First National Bank of Brownsville should not be dissolved.

S. M. Humphreys, of Jefferson county, filed a petition in bankruptcy. Referred to Register Woodruff.

United States Circuit Court—Judge McKennan.

Cases of Fahnestock & Co. vs. W. T. Webb, George Wisecarver, S. B. Wise, Jesse Hook, and in the case of John A. Horner vs. the same, default judgments ordered to be entered in default of sufficient affidavit defense. Action for debt.

D. W. Evans; a bill praying for a review of proceedings had in the District Court—argued and dismissed at cost of complainant.

Cases of E. A. L. Roberts vs W. H. Harper, John H. Gailey and G. C. Howe and D. D. Kerns. Preliminary injunctions allowed in each case. Patent torpedo infringement.

On motion of D. F. Patterson, Esq., a rule for an attachment was allowed against C. H. Snively and J. Stokes, for disobeying subpœnas issued by the United States Commissioner at Petrolia, on petition of the members of the bar of Lawrence county.

John J. Sampson was appointed a United States Commissioner in this district.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Stowe and Collier.

Commonwealth *ex rel.* vs. Dorothea Buehler. Victor Herb appointed committee.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of Charles Zangsmith to Michael Streng, inventory and appraisement were presented, exception was allowed and bond of assignee fixed at $13,000. Bond approved.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of Behrens & Janowitz to Moses Bown, inventory and appraisement were presented and approved.

D. R. Scott vs. Orpha Scott; libel in divorce. Subpœna awarded.

Agnes M. Boyd, by her next friend, vs. John L. Boyd; libel in divorce. Subpœna awarded